THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 5TH DECEMBER.

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT is so loud against the zemindars for what it calls rack-renting the ryots, it ought at any rate to set an example in its *khas* estates. It is notorious that enhancement of rent has come to a dead-lock in Bengal owing to the unworkable provisions of the Rent-Law, but it is going on with the utmost rigour in the *khas* mehals of Government. We have before us a copy of a petition which the inhabitants of Cuttack have submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General in Council praying for relief from the exorbitant assessment of the Government *khas* mehal estates. From this petition and its annexures it appears that under the recent settlement the rent of the holdings in the *khas* mehal estates has been raised twenty to thirty-fold of the last rate. The ryots, however, were made to believe that the rents have been only quadrupled. For the increase there is of course some ground, which is the improved condition of the cultivators, but we have been assured that whatever improvement has occurred in the circumstances of the ryots, it is owing to causes temporary, which are not likely to last long, and which do not at all justify such an enormous increase. The assessment was made only about a year ago and within this time 1,400 holdings have been put up to sale for default of revenue, and we make no doubt that every year the number of defaulters will increase. The zemindars of the Orissa Division have been terror-struck, and they fear that when the time comes for the resettlement of their estates, which will be fifteen or sixteen years hence, their misfortune will know no bounds. Many tenure-holders, we learn, have stopped making any improvement lest the revised assessment should far outstrip their profits. The great mischief done by the example of the Government estates is that, the neighbouring zemindars have begun a system of wholesale enhancement of rent, and they very reasonably excuse themselves on the plea that if the bordering Government estates can bear an increase of twenty to thirty times the former rent, they are very moderate in their demands. What they have done or commenced doing is merely to raise one rupee or a rupee and four annas to Rs. 3-7 or 4-5. The assessment, we learn, was made with the approval of the Collector Mr. Beames and the Commissioner Mr. Ravenshaw, and it finally received the sanction of the Board. We hope Lord Ripon will order a full enquiry into the subject.

THE HINDU of Madras gives the order passed by the local Government in respect to disputes during religious processions in Salem. The order runs thus:

"The custom of] accompanying religious processions with music having given rise to frequent b eaches of the peace and become the subject of complaint by persons of other sects declaring that their public devotions were disturbed the Government instructed the Magistracy to make it an invariable condition, when their interference becomes necessary to regulate such processions, that the music shall cease playing with the procession in passing any recognised place of public worship, to whatever denomination belonging, except of course the places of worship appertaining to the processionists themselves."

THE SAME JOURNAL says that the Madras High Court in an appeal from the decision of a lower Court *in connection with the question whether the words in* the order, "undisturbed performance of religious worship," did not conflict with the right of unrestricted use of the highway for procession, has decided "that it is unnecessary that there should be a rule that persons, should not *at any time* pass along a high road the neighbourhood of a recognised place of worship, attended by music." The order of the Court further restricts such processions where they are calculated to *disturb an assembly for purpose of worship.*

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPORE correspondent writes that the grievances of his fellow-villagers has been redressed by the postal authorities sanctioning an additional peon for the prompt delivery of Magurah letters. But our correspondent says that they have another postal grievance, which is the late delivery of Calcutta mails, later than the delivery made at Kushtea, which is seven miles further off from Gossain Durgapore.

WITH REGARD to the crops in that part of the Nuddea District the same correspondent says that, of the late or winter rice the yield will be an average half owing to want of rain during the latter end of autumn. The winter crops do not promise well, but there will be an abundant harvest of chillies and sugar-cane. The yield of the two indigo factories managed by natives is 110 maunds of indigo of very superior quality. This is considered creditable.

REFERRING to the prevalence of malarious fever our correspondent writes: "You cannot want better evidence than the fact that the attendance in the school which was 130 daily before the Puja has fallen to 50 or 55, and yet the sub-divisional officer would not send a native Doctor or satisfy himself of the necessity for one by a personal visit." The Arms Act, continues our correspondent, "is being enforced here with all the rigors of Magisterial power. People are being fined right and left for neglecting to renew their licenses. The Police are being rewarded for bringing to notice all defaulters."

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Ashmali, a village, about nine miles west of Ranaghat, says:

While reports of prevalence of the malarious fever come from all parts of the Nuddea District the true state of things obtaining in the Ranaghat sub-division has not been noticed. The Sub-divisional Officer of Ranaghat cannot be unaware that fever rages with as great virulence at Ranaghat as elsewhere in the Nuddea District, and yet what has been done to place within the reach of the suffering poor either medicines or medical aid? Fever rages with peculiar force in this part of the district and every house has prostrated members. It made its appearance after the rains of 1880 and its ravages were at first confined to the poorer classes; gradually it ascended upwards and seized the middle and the higher classes. It continued to the middle of the present year but with less severity. In last August it made its reappearance and swept away hundreds. Gradually matters grew worse, the fever took a typhoid form and killed and prostrated many. Amongst the lower orders the distress is very great. The medical practitioners made a good harvest for sometime, but the people soon lost all faith and had recourse to quack medicines, and quinine. The Civil Surgeon of Krishnaghar's patent had a rapid sale for sometime but now very few people use it, because in the first place it is costly and secondly not available. Quacks, Enchanters and Fakeers are making a good use of the occasion. Madhublal Chuckerbutty, a medical practitioner, is doing eminent service by supplying medicines and visiting the sick poor. It will be a great boon to the people if the services of such practitioners be secured and aid given to them in the shape of medicines with a small remuneration. Fever in these places may be owing to the interruption of the flow of a stream by dams and embankments as well as by beels and jungles.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the prospectus of a Commercial Company Limited started by native gentlemen registered under the Indian Companies Act X of 1866. The Company proposes to begin work with a capital of Rs. 30,000 divided into 3,000 shares of Rs. 10 each. Registered shareholders will be required to pay the whole amount of the share when called upon for payment. The office of the Company is located at Kawnea on the North-Bengal Railway.

A CORRESPONDENT announces the death of Babu Umaprosad Sen, of Somrah in the district of Hooghly. The deceased was of respectable parentage and made himself useful to the local community by his knowledge, business habits, and public spirit.

TUESDAY, 6TH DECEMBER.

WE HAVE RECEIVED the following from the Press Commissioner's office:

News received from Kandahar up to 24th November. On 19th Amir is said to have assembled tradesmen of the city and head men of neighbouring villages in the Hazratji Mosque, addressed them kindly, said he had forgiven the past and warned them regarding the future. Amir marched on 20th for Kabul with one Regiment Kandahari Durranis, one Herati, two Kabuli, two Cavaly Regiments and 10 guns. Until the arrival of Abdul Russul, Sirdar Habibullah and the Mustaufi Mir Mahammad Hussain Kazilbash will act as Governors of Kandahar.

THE PIONEER says that marriages by ladies of the stage with gentlemen of the nobility are becoming epidemic on the continent of Europe. Mademoiselle Schneider has fascinated or purchased a coronet in her forty-eighth year. The quondam Duchess of Gerolstein is really Countess of Bionne. Mademoiselle Goby, last month, married the Count of Louviere. And now it is said that the charming Alice Regnault is about to espouse a Duke. Ladies of the stage have frequently lent grace, beauty, and talent to the worn-out nobility of the continent, and indeed sometimes of that of England. Carllotta Grisi is Countess de Milay; one of the Taglionis is Countess Gilbert de Voisins, and Madame Sontag became the wife of Count Rossi. Adelina Patti became Marchioness de Caux, though the arrangement was not productive of the happiest results, and Alix Bressant is Princess Kotchoubey. Alboni married Count Pepoli; Mademoiselle Busca, Count Torot, Celeste Mogador, Count de Chabrillan, Anna Delagrange Count Stankowiez, and Ristori, Count Capranica. Spohie Cruvelli and Marie Heilborn only married Viscounts, the first Viscount vigier the second Viscount de la Paneuse. The charming Pauline Lucca (Baroness of Wallhofen) and the agreeable Virgine Loisset (Baroness de Reuss) condescended to give their fair hands to husbands of the lowest order of the nobility.

THE NEWSPAPERS of Madrid mention a scheme which has been set on foot for a national subscription for the pupose of buying Gibraltar from England. Some Madrid bankers are said to have offered to give 5,000,000 francs towards this object. If England refuses to entertain the proposition, the proceeds of the subscription are to be employed in fortifying points on the Straits, both in Africa and Spain.

AT LORD MAYOR'S Banquet Lord Granville thus alluded to Mr. Gladstone: "If for half a century there is one man who has obtained an unrivalled hold on public opinion—a hold strengthened and confirmed by the tone which some of his political opponents think it becoming to adopt—a hold based on unique legislative ability and on a singular power of communicating political convictions to the masses as well as to the most enlightened classes of his countrymen—if there be such a man, and he happens to combine exceptional physical strength with intellectual power, I do not think it absolutely necessary for us to refer to the average tables of an insurance company to know for how many years we may hope that he will devote himself to his country to which he has already rendered such brilliant services." What does all this mean? Is it meant to prepare the public mind for the retirement of the premier into private life? We hope not.

SIR RICHARD TEMPLE, it is stated, has become the President of the East India Association. He is sure to infuse a new life into the Association.

MR. GLADSTONE on the situation in Affghansthan:

"If I look to the north-west frontier of India, I am happy to be able to state that, although all our subjects are not yet gained, although we cannot say that we have an Afghanistan which is united, independent, and powerful, yet at least we can say we have an Afghanistan which, instead of being broken into fragments, is under the sway of a single ruler; which, instead of being offended with the military presence of the foreigner, so hateful to the sight of every man of martial race, is at present entirely independent of that presence, which, we hope, may grow in strength and tranquillity, and receive from us the good and friendly offices of neighbours, which it will be our study carefully and loyally to render."

The success of Amir Abdul Rahaman is certainly a god-send to the Liberal Government.

WEDNESDAY 7TH DECEMBER.

THE LONDON CORRESPONDENT of the *Times of India* says that there was lately a meeting held at Lord Northbrook's to consider the question of abolishing the Council of the Secretary of State for India. Although no precise course of action was apparently decided upon, it was generally agreed that an early opportunity should be taken for bringing the question under the notice of Parliament. If Native opinion be consulted in the matter, we do not hesitate to say that Native India to a man will be found opposed to the threatened measure.

LORD HARTINGTON presided at the meeting of the Yeovil Agricultural Association. At the dinner in the afternoon Mr. Paget, M. P., in proposing Lord Hartington's health, said, the Conservative party entertained a hope that his lordship, identified as he was with the agricultural interest and known to be a moderate man, would before long quit the ranks of the party of excess, and enrol himself among the Conservatives. Lord Hartington, in reply, said it was impossible for him to foretell what the future might bring forth, but so far as his present convictions or intentions were, they were completely bound up with those of the party of which he was proud to be a member.

ON THE SAME occasion Lord Hartington spoke out, though cautiously, on the land question. His Lord-

ship said. "Whilst willing to give full security to the tenant for the profitable employment of his capital, he could not agree with those who held that the employment of such capital gave the tenant a co-proprietary right in the soil." We hope his Lordship will remember his own words when he considers the Bengal Rent Bill.

AT A SPECIAL MEETING of the Home Rule League, held in Dublin Major Talbot Darcy presiding, a manifesto to the Irish people was adopted, pointing out that "we are on the eve of the centenary of 1782," and calling on them "to make the year 1882 memorable by the determined attempt to reconstitute the fabric raised a hundred years ago by the public virtues of Grattan and the volunteers, and destroyed in 1800 by the bribes and bayonets of Pitt and Castlereagh." Is not this language revolutionary?—and yet the Government does not consider it necessary to take notice of such braggadocio.

WE TAKE the following from the *Home and Colonial News*:

An English Steamer Attacked by Savages,—The Steamer Matthew Curtis went ashore in a fog near Cape Guardafui on Oct. 2nd, on a voyage from Calcutta to Cardiff. The crew were landed at Cardiff on Friday. A few hours after the vessel struck it was attacked by several hundred savages, armed with spears. Having no firearms on board, the unfortunate men were unable to make a prolonged defence and at nightfall they took to the boats, and abandoned the steamer to her fate. They were picked up by a vessel on the following day. The circumstances of the loss of the steamship, as narrated by the chief officer and the chief engineer, appear to have been of an extraordinary character. The vessel was owned by Messrs. Fry Cardiff. Her gross tonnage was 1,900, and she had engines of 200 horse-power. She had made voyages to America and India without meeting with any accident of note. In July last she took on board a large cargo of coal for Port Said, from which port she again sailed on the 3rd of August for Calcutta *via* the Suez Canal. She arrived there in the latter part of August, and loaded 10,000 bales of jute, consigned to Dundee.

Was the absence of fire-arms on board the steamer any way due to the Indian Arms Act?

LORD CRAWFORD well known as an enthusiastic student of science, thus alluded to the electric light in a short address at Wigan the other day. He said, the more he saw of it the more he felt the impracticability of using the light universally—firstly, because of the expense in producing it; secondly, the expense of keeping it up; and thirdly, the danger of placing it in the hands of ignorant men and the danger of working it. There were, however, many things in which he thought the employment of electricity would be of very great service. Where large areas had to be lighted, no amount of gas could stand against the electric light.

IT IS STATED THAT an ambassador from the King of Siam is now in Vienna, purchasing arms, and endeavoring to obtain services of Austrian officers for the Siamese army.

THURSDAY, 8TH DECEMBER.

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT has set a good example by appointing a Commission to enquire into the extent and effect of liquor drinking in the Empire. Lord Ripon ought to follow this example and appoint a similar Commission in India.

THE FOLLOWING statistics given by Mr. Gladstone in a speech at Leeds are worth noting. In 1841 the population of the United Kingdom was 26½ millions; in 1881 it was 36 millions— an increase of 36 per cent; in 1842 the taxable income amounted to £251,000,000 1880 (including the £40,000,000, supposed to have been lost) to £582,000,000—an increase of 130 per cent.; in 1848 the export trade of the country amounted to £51,000,000, in 1880 it was £223,000,000—an increase of 450 per cent; in 1841 the amount deposited in the savings banks was £24,000,000, in 1880 £75,500,000; in 1849 there were in England and Wales 201,000 paupers, which in 1880 were reduced to 111,000.

WE ACKNOWLEDGED lately the receipt of a work of fiction in Bengali entitled "Sailabala" The author very modestly withholds his name, but we think he would not have suffered in his literary reputation by an avowal of authorship. The story is interesting and the book is well-written. We would recommend the author to dramatize his work.

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPUR correspondent writes:

My last letter perhaps has had one effect. For the Subdivisional officer of Kushtea has sent a native Doctor here with the necessary supply of medicine. Within the last three days he visited 40 poor houses numbering 100 inmates. The well-to-do and respectable classes do not avail themselves of charity treatment, but I take the number of the poor, I find about four sick persons to each house. One doctor will not do for so many sufferers, we want a second man. If Mr. Anderson can make time to visit this place once, he may see things with his own eyes.

A MAHOMEDAN CORRESPONDENT, whose letter we cannot publish *in extenso* for want of space, expresses his surprise that so many respectable Mahomedan gentlemen attended the levee of His Excellency the Viceroy on Saturday last, though it was the eve of the anniversary of the sad death of the Prophet's grandson Emam Hossein on the field of Karballa. It is imperative and customary for all faithful Moslems to pass the eve of the anniversary in deep mourning.

WE HAVE RECEIVED A communication signed by some of the inhabitants of Bhuddressur bitterly complaining of the hardship, to which the people of that town have been subjected by the construction of a branch Railway line to that place. It is not the line to which they object, but the obstruction to the thoroughfare from Majerpara and Sircarparah sections of Bhuddressur to the river, which the inhabitants use for going to the river to bathe as well as to bring drinking water, there being no good tanks in that part of the town. The Railway authorities have built a small culvert which does not admit of the passage of two men abreast. Surely the district authorities ought to attend to complaints of this kind.

FRIDAY, 9TH DECEMBER.

SIR ASHLEY EDEN thus addressed the young Raja of Deo on the occasion of his investiture with the Khillut of his title:

Descended as you are from a family which has always been distinguished for loyalty to the British Government, and occupying as you do, a high place among the Rais of Behar, I would remind you that in addition to honors and dignities there are also serious responsibilities attaching to the position that you will now hold in this district and that the Government claims from noblemen in your position that they shall set an example to those around them not only of loyalty towards the Government but of precedence in the management of their estates, propriety in their general conduct and kindness and consideration for the tenants on their estates. Your father distinguished himself highly by his loyalty and good service during the troublesome times of 1857 and set an example in this respect which earned for him the marked approbation of Government. Let me hope that in the more peaceful times in which we now live you will do your utmost to maintain the honor and dignity of the family of which you are the head, by the careful administration of your estate, and by your enlightened conduct as a landholder and a leader of the people.

We say—*amen!*

APROPOS of Mr. Baxter's advent in this country, who is a zealous advocate of the Disestablishment of the Church, the *Times of India* says: "The Ceylon Church is now doomed. Disestablishment has been effected also in Trinidad, the West India Islands, the Mauritius, the Cape, in New Zealand, in New South Wales, and in Canada. But a state church still survives in India, in the midst of an alien population; and here it is certainly less defensible than in any of the colonies we have named." Quite so. All India should unite to make a demonstration on the subject.

WE ARE glad to observe that the boon of local self-government, which Lord Ripon proposes to confer upon the people of this country, is being appreciated. A meeting to thank the Viceroy on the subject was held at Putia in the district of Rajshahye under the direction of no less a personage than Maharani Sarat Sundoori Devi, who was present at the meeting behind the purdah. This was quite a novelty.

WE READ that the Poona Sarvajanic Sabha is about to hold a public meeting "to adopt a memorial to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, praying that the right of elective franchise should be granted to the citizens, in furtherance of the decentralization scheme." Demonstrations of this kind ought to be held throughout the country.

A CURIOUS *contretemps* at the Viceroy's Levee at Benares is mentioned. The Delhi Princes and a number of other native gentlemen, numbering over fifty, were stationed by the officiating Commissioner, Mr. Sladen, in an ante-room, waiting to be called on to proceed to the viceregal presence. They waited long enough, the Levee was concluded, but the Commissioner did not care to call them in. They complained of this omission to Lord William Beresford, who immediately ran upstairs, explained matters to the Viceroy, when His Excellency again descended, the Staff formed up, and the native Princes and the other gentlemen were duly presented. Lord William Beresford truly deserves the Victoria Cross. This little incident will doubtless open the eyes of Lord Ripon to the temper of Indian civilians.

WE ARE glad to observe that the Bombay Cotton Frauds Act is at last doomed. The Secretary of State has issued his fiat against it.

THE PIONEER cautions the Government against official reports on the Income tax and the License tax. The caution may fitly be extended to official reports on other subjects.

SATURDAY, 10TH DECEMBER.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows:

We understand that the Director of Public Instruction is now engaged in effecting a change in the system of education which had been hitherto in vogue in these provinces, the object of the change being, besides economy, a simpler classification of schools It is proposed to place English schools on a Vernacular basis; and it is urged in support of the measure that English and Vernacular Schools being no longer separate, and the Vernacular department of the amalgamated School learning English more systematically as a language, and other subjects through the medium of the Vernacular, the gain will be, 1stly boys of the Vernacular department will be enabled to take up their English earlier and at a more proper age than now possibly, and will not therefore be impatient, to abandon vernacular education before being well grounded in it. 2ndly, instruction given by efficient Vernacular teachers through the medium of the learner's mother tongue will be more *pucka*, and effective, as well as speedier than the indifferent teaching conveyed by ill-paid and incompetent teachers through a complicated foreign tongue like English.

The proposed new system is reported on all hands to have been successfully introduced in middle English Schools, and it is now intended to extend it to Higher Schools, which teach up to the University Entrance standard. To some schools of this class, the experiment has already been applied, and it is said, with success, so far as has yet been observed. His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal seems to take great interest in the experiment, which he considers to be "unquestionably one of first importance," and the progress and success which attends it should in His Honor's opinion be carefully watched.

WE OBSERVE that Mr. C. H. T. Crosthwaite has been appointed an Additional Member of the Vice-regal Legislative Council. Mr. A. B. Inglis is also appointed an Additional Member of the Council. Mr. Inglis is a worthy representative of the mercantile community of Calcutta.

ACCORDING to the *Indian Daily News* the Government of India has decided to recommend to the Secretary of State the following scale of pensions for Civil Engineers in the P. W. D.:

Rs. 1,000 a year after 10 years' service, increasing by increments for each year of service to—
Rs. 1,500 a year after 15 years' service.
„ 2,500 ditto 20 ditto
„ 4,000 ditto 25 ditto
„ 6,000 ditto 30 ditto
Voluntary retirement to be allowed, at any time, after the completion of 20 years' service.

LORD RIPON presided at the last distribution of prizes to the pupils of St. Xavier's College, and delivered an excellent address. We hope all Indian students will remember the truth to which his Lordship gave utterance, viz., that "the real education training of the man does not terminate [illegible] school period, or when his University studies are ended." This truth is common place enough, but unfortunately our young men do not always bear it in mind.

THERE WERE 312 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 3rd November, of which 68 were from cholera, none from small-pox, 84 from fever, 40 from bowel complaints, 2 from accidents, 17 from pthisis and asthma, 10 from convulsions, 10 from spleen diseases, 25 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. Nine children were still-born, 46 died between the ages of 15 days and under and above 15 days and under one year, 52 persons died at the age of 60 and upwards. Among non-Asiatics and mixed races the deaths were 14. The average of daily mortality was 44·5.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London December 5.—It is officially announced that the appointment of Mr. Sendall as Lieutenant-Governor of Natal has been cancelled. Government will accede to the wishes of the Natal Legislative Council and appoint a Governor, instead of a Lieutenant-Governor.

6.—The Marquis of Hartington has decided to extend to the Officers of the artillery and Engineers under the Indian Pension Rules, the revised scale of pensions for Officers who entered the Indian Staff Corps subsequent to September 1865. The Empress Eugenie is better, but confined to her room. The Queen will visit her next week. Sir Garnet Wolseley succeeds Sir C. Ellice in April.

7.—Sir. Garnet Wolseley, when he assumes the Adjutant Generalship, will continue to transact official business under the authority of the Commander-in Chief. Mr. Potter, Solicitor General for Ireland, has been elected member for Londonderry by a majority of 647, vice Mr. Law, now Lord Chancellor of Ireland. Orders have been issued for the gunboat *Philomel* to blockade Pemba Island, near Zanzibar, where the slave dhow is believed to have taken refuge.

8.—The Government has invited a thousand army reserves and retired policemen to volunteer for special protection duty in Ireland with the Irish constabulary.

9.—Five additional Land Commissioners have been appointed in Ireland. Mr. Parnell is ill.

Vienna, December 4.—Considerable tension having existed between Austria and Roumania respecting the navigation of the Danube, the Austrian Government has ordered the suspension of diplomatic relations, pending an investigation by Count Kalmoky Korospatak.

8.—The Ring Theatre here has been destroyed by fire. Three hundred corpses have been exhumed from the ruins. The cause of the fire is attributed to the fall of a lamp on the stage.

Tunis, December 8.—A remnant of the Insurgents are retreating towards Tripoli. The French troops are pursuing them. Turkish troops have been despatched in order to protect the Tripoli frontier.

WE THANK Mr. Erasmus Joves for a copy of his Calcutta Commercial Almanac for 1882. It has been neatly got up and contains within a small compass much useful information.

Digitized with financial assistance from the National Archives of India on 07 August, 2017

We have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals: 1. The Calcutta Commercial Almanac for 1882. 2. Meteorological Record from November to December 1880 and from January to February 1881. 3. Annual statement of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Bengal Presidency, &c., Vol. II for 1880-81. 4. Indian Meteorological Memoirs, Vol. I Part II. 5. Positivism and Christianity,—a lecture delivered at Krishnaghur. By B. L. Chunder. 6. England's Duty to India—a letter to the Marquis of Hartington. By John Murdoch, Madras.. 7. Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India for October 1881 and seven months from 1st April to 31st October 1881. 8. Records of the Geological Survey of India. Vol. XIV. Part 4. 9. The Opium Question—a paper by Deputy Surgeon General W. J. Moore. 10. Malaria and Recognizable and Climatic Influences. By W. J. Moore. 11. The Inventor's Record, Vol. III. No. 131. 12. Protiva Vol. I Nos. 1 to 4. 13. Kulpatoru, a Bengali monthly, Vol. I, No. 1 for Boisakh 1288 B. E. 14. Copy of Memorial of B. Ramaswamiengar to His Excellency the Viceroy. 15. Selections from the Records of the Government of India, Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department. No. C LXXVIII.

THE BITER BIT. A driver of the Calcutta Tramway Company charged the coachman of Babu Hari Mohun Roy, son of the late Babu Romapersad Roy, with rash and negligent driving. The Magistrate, Mr. B L. Gupta, not only dismissed the charge, which was not proved, but has granted a summons against the driver.

THE WERKIST in this *Evening's Englishman* makes the following gratuitous confession.:

"We may not have arrived at that pitch of moral education in my school days to which the boys of the present generation have attained, but I can well remember the general opinion of the three hundred and odd boys with whom I was at school at Dr. Birch's establishment, and this was "that it was as bad as going to chapel on a week day." Evidently the sense of the value of competition examinations and wholesome advice had not then permeated our young minds to the extent it is supposed to have done the minds of modern boys. My kind friends may probably after this set me down as one of the bad boys who never obtained a prize; but I still have in my possession some of those instructive books with the school arms on the back and a flattering inscription inside, which would prove the contrary, though how far they were deserved, may be quite another matter."

The proof of the pudding is in the eating—*vide* the Week in every *Saturday Evening's Englishman*!

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1881.

A SLAVE LAW ON THE ANVIL.

AN APPEAL TO LORD RIPON.

WE appeal to Lord Ripon to look carefully into the Inland Immigration Bill for Assam. It is a slave-law in disguise. We are the more sorry because it has been put in charge of an Hon'ble Member, for whom we have the highest respect, whose greatest merit is his thorough conscientiousness, and who is known to be a zealous friend of humanity, and also because it is to be passed under the ægis of a statesman, whose sympathy with the poor, weak and helpless is unquestionable, and who within the short space he has been in this country has shewn that he fully realizes his sacred responsibilities as the Ruler of one-fifth of the human race. Perhaps the wires are being pulled from England. Be that as it may we consider it our duty to draw Lord Ripon's attention to the one-sided character of the Immigration Bill, and we leave it to His Lordship to deal with it in such manner as to his judgment and conscience may seem meet.

It is necessary to bear in mind that the Bill has originated with the representatives of the tea interest in England. This is admitted in the statement of objects and reasons annexed to the Bill. In this statement it is set forth that "the attention of Government had previously been directed by certain persons interested in the large and important tea industry in Assam to several points in which the law relating to inland emigration appeared to require amendment." The Secretary of State referred the representation of the tea planters to the Government of India, which determined to appoint a Commission to enquire into and report upon the subject. But how was the Commission constituted? The representation came from tea planters, and it was referred to a Committee of planters, merchants interested in tea, and certain officials, some if not all of whom are perhaps shareholders of tea companies. Not a single native gentleman, who might be supposed to represent the interest of the poor labourer, was nominated to it. And the draft-Bill prepared by the Commission aims at the amendment of the existing law on those points only, which affect the interests of the planter, as we will presently show. And the Bill introduced into the Governor-General's Council is based on the lines laid down in the draft Bill of the Commission. Thus the whole Bill has been conceived and concocted in the interest of the planters.

The Commission drew special attention to four points, which they considered to be principal defects of the existing law, *viz.*, (*a*) that the existing law does not afford sufficient encouragement to free emigration; (*b*) that it imposes unnecessary restrictions upon sardari recruiting; (*c*) that it fails to provide for the enforcement of contracts made otherwise than under its provisions even in the case of imported labourers; (*d*) that it is defective in respect of the remedies provided for employers in the event of the unlawful absence, idleness or desertion of their contract labourers. It will be seen that all these points refer to the interests of the planter. Not a single point has been urged for the protection of the interests of the labourer. The first point noticed by the Commission is that the existing law does not afford sufficient encouragement to free emigration, and the Bill accordingly provides for it. Now, the question is whether exceptional legislation is or is not necessary on the subject. The existence of a special law from 1865, and the introduction of the present Bill, afford proof positive that the emigration of labourers into Assam cannot be left to the ordinary law of the land. And when such is the case what is the meaning of the jargon that free emigration should be encouraged? If the country is ripe for it, by all means abolish the present restrictive regulations, but if it is not, then why blow hot and cold in the same breath? Why talk of encouraging free emigration, and then also of restriction? Putting aside free emigration we find that three agencies for the catching of coolies will be brought into play, 1st the contractor and his recruiter, 2nd the garden sirdar, and 3rd the local agent. The powers and privileges of the three are the same, but as we descend the scale, we find their responsibilities get small by degrees and beautifully less. There is some check imposed upon the contractor and his recruiter, less check upon the garden sirdar, and still less check upon the local agent, though all of them are empowered to engage as many labourers as they like, and forward them to any part of the labour districts of Assam as they may think fit. Perhaps Lord Ripon is not aware how coolies are engaged in this country. A recruiter or a garden-sirdar goes into the interior, and like a vulture sets about for prey. He insinuates himself into the good grace of some influential villager, and tries to enlist his influence on his side. With his aid he holds out *colour de rose* pictures of the plantations, and induces poor labourers to come in. Sometimes he poses himself as a guide of pilgrims, and induces men and women to proceed on pilgrimage. Sometimes to find out missing members of a poor man's family, he takes some able-bodied among them to proceed with him in search of them. He carefully instructs his own yeomen to answer "yes" to every question put to them, and thus manages to pack off his "chattels." The object of the special law is to check this sort of fraudulent practices by an elaborate machinery of restrictions and precautions, but practically these do not avail much. As the Bill has been framed, the restrictions have been considerably relaxed. When a cooly is engaged by a recruiter, he is to be produced before a Magistrate for registration, and the Magistrate is to satisfy himself before registration that the labourer understands his intended contract. But he is not required to explain the contract to the labourer; he is simply to satisfy himself in a passive way that the labourer understands his contract. The *modus operandi* on this occasion is generally as follows: The coolies are arranged in a row, the recruiter or the garden sirdar manages to put in a few of his yeomen among them, who are not coolies, but probably imps, and as the Magistrate or some subordinate officer bawls out "*sub razi hai*," the answer is yelled out by these imps—"*Razi hai*!" The coolies are then registered, and within thirty days they must execute the contract or go to jail. When the coolies are engaged by a contractor's recruiter, they are to be subjected to two medical examinations, but when they will be engaged by a garden sirdar, there will be no medical examination except at the option of the Magistrate. No wonder that the contractors complain of the invidious distinction made. In a petition to Government the contractors state, "were all the batches of sirdar coolies medically inspected at Calcutta by the Medical Inspector as the contractors' coolies are, a large number would be rejected as sickly and unfit to proceed to Assam or Cachar, and as these rejected coolies would have to be sent back to their homes, their families would invariably refuse to go to the tea districts, and would, likewise have to be sent back whence they came. The medical examination in the recruiting districts and in Calcutta would prevent such a heavy mortality as is now prevalent amongst the coolies, and sirdars' batches being invariably the first on the doctors' list they infect contractors' coolies, and are the cause that the mortality amongst contractors' coolies has increased during the last season. The contractors are obliged to submit to these rules, but not the sirdars, who do as they please, and in such manner the contractor has many expenses which increase heavily his charges for recruiting coolies, whilst sirdars are protected from such expences." Then the contractors are required to house and feed the coolies properly. They are bound to construct depots, subject to the approval of the superintendent, provide food and clothing, similarly subject to approval, and to contribute to the maintenance of hospital depots for the relief of the sick. But no such provisions are made for the benefit of coolies to be engaged by garden sirdars. It is true that the Magistrate is to approve the accomodation to be provided by garden sirdars, but as the rules are not stringent, it may be easily conceived that the Magistrate will not be strict in this matter. The contractors in the petition referred to say: "The largest bulk (of Sirdari cooles) come to Calcutta, and it is a fact that they are housed, sometimes for a considerably long time, on the roofs of the offices of the agents in town, in their pucca godowns, and in stables in fact, the office of the Seperintendent is invariably a depot for laborers of an agency house who have the office in the same premises." Then the food and clothing to be supplied by garden sirdars to labourers are not to be subjected to medical supervision. The local Agent, who may be especially licensed to engage coolies on behalf of employers, will be subject to such of the provisions prescribed for garden sirdars as may be held applicable to them. It may be thus imagined that the so-called restrictions in the law will come to nothing. Firstly, there will be free emigration, which means no restriction, secondly recruiting by contractors, which will be expensive and will therefore be not much resorted to, thirdly engagement by garden sirdars, which being less restricted will be naturally more availed of, and lastly engagement by local agents, with still less restriction, which will we fear gradually supersede all other agencies. In other words there will be restrictions in the statute, which will perhaps tend to mitigate the qualms of the consciences of the legislators, but which will *de facto* remain a dead letter, and the poor cooly will be practically made over body and soul to the planter. The woes of the cooly do not end with his engagement or with his passage to his destination. On arrival in the labour district the tasks of labour will be specified; nothing however is to be said on this point when the contract is executed, and in case of difference of opinion between the Government inspector and the employer, a Committee is to assemble, which is to consist of two employers and the inspector, the employer necessarily having the majority. Then the labourer is to provide his own rations except at times of scarcity, and will receive as wages Rs. 5 for the first three years, and Rs

6 for the last two years of his contract. He is to be quartered by the planter, but if he has any complaint to make against his employer, he must forward it to the inspector or Magistrate through the unnatural channel of the accused. For every day he is absent from work with or without reason his pay is to be deducted. If he absconds, he may be arrested without warrant by any person acting on behalf of the employer. This part of the Bill may be said to be a true copy of the fugitive slave law of America. Breach of labour contract in the cultivation of agricultural produce is not punishable criminally, but infringement of labour contracts in Assam involves criminal imprisonment. In case of an estate being closed, the coolies may be made over to another estate like so many goods and chattels, and last, though not the least, the term of the contract, that is to say, the span of the coolie's life on the estate, is compulsorily extended from three to five years.

We appeal to Lord Ripon to consider whether such a Bill deserves his support and sanction. The report of the Select Committee was presented by Mr. Thompson on Wednesday last, and we are not a little surprised to hear that it is proposed to pass it next Wednesday. It has been before the vast bulk of the native public, who are not acquainted with English, not quite a month and a half. The Bengali translation of the Bill appeared for the first time in the Bengali Government *Gazette* on the 25th October last. As there was a general suspension of business for some weeks owing to Durga Puja and other pujahs, the native public could not be expected to give due attention to this important measure, during that period. We do hope that the Bill will not be passed in hot haste. There is no necessity for hurry in a matter like this. If the Bill is to pass in its present form, we hope the Council will at any rate give a hearing to what the native public may have to say on the subject.

LORD HARTINGTON ON THE COTTON DUTIES.

WE MEAN no disrespect to Lord Hartington or detract from his high merits as a statesman when we say that he is a thorough politician, and seems to be a clever adept in the art of expression. His reply to the Manchester Deputation on the cotton duties was a model in its way. He said every thing that was necessary for him to say to assure Manchester that the consummation so devoutly wished for by it will be effected, but at the same time his Lordship made no direct promise. His reason for not making a specific promise was that no decision could be arrived at till the Indian Budget was ready. His Lordship said: "At that moment, the Government of India, and the Government at home to some extent, were engaged in the preparation of the Indian Budget, and he thought they would agree with him that it would be extremely inexpedient while the matter was under the careful consideration of the Indian Government that he should take this opportunity of announcing what conclusion they had arrived at." Of course no one could reasonably take exception to such a statement. Immediately, however, his lordship turned side and said that the past Government, in making concessions to Lancashire, had gone on the wrong way. "Much as he approved the concessions which had been made to the Lancashire cotton trade, he thought the method in which they had been made was somewhat unfortunate." In other words the right remedy had not been applied, and will probably be applied by his Lordship. What that remedy is the reader can easily guess—the total repeal of the cotton duties! But his Lordship protested that the concessions had been made in deference to the wishes of Manchester. His Lordship said: "It was to be regretted that in India an impression prevailed that these concessions had been made solely in deference to the pressure of the manufacturers of Manchester, and not in the interest of the people of India. He need not say that the reduction of taxation in this direction was as much in the interests of India as it was in those of Lancashire. Still when they saw strange economic doctrines promulgated even in this country in some quarters with acceptance, hey need not be surprised to learn that a very rge mass of public opinion in India should believe that the abolition of these ImportDuties was a distinct injury inflicted upon them, and a corresponding advantage to the interests of Lancashire." Will any amount of protestations from England convince the stupid people of India that they have not been sold in this matter? They know too well what influence the Manchester Lords exercise on Her Majesty's Government in England of whatever political complexion. They know also that their voice is too feeble to make any impression on their masters. They do well remember that when the cotton duties were first reduced, the measure was based on the plea of doing away with protection. That plea was barred by the action of Lord Northbrook, who remitted the duties on coarse goods. But still the Government went on, and the action taken has been embarassing to Lancashire. Even the Manchester deputation admitted this fact Mr. Lord said: "The partial remission of the duties had created several difficulties and in many instances it had proved very harassing to Indian business." And yet it is dinned into our ears that the concessions have been made not in the interest of Manchester only but also of India, aye, for the sake of sound economic doctrines! But whatever the opinion of the people of India—and who cares for it?—Lord Hartington assured the deputation that the heart of the Government was sound to the core. His Lordship said: "As to the Government they had no desire but to do what was right, but it was scarcely less important that the reasons and grounds of their policy should be thoroughly understood in India. They were now trying to bring it to the minds of the people of India that what was being done was being done in their interest, and not in compliance to any dictation from Manchester. Although he could not announce what would be the result, it would give him great satisfaction to lay the views and their arguments before the Indian Government." We know very well that the cotton contagion has been caught by the Government of India, but this was expected. The Government of India since the days of Lord Canning, and with the temporary exception of Lord Northbrook, has degenerated into a mere *alter ego* of the Secretary of State for India. It appears that Lancashire is not quite unanimous in its demand. It would seem that some manufacturers would be content if the duties on grey goods only were remitted, while others would go the whole hog and have a total repeal of the duties. Lord Hartington thus noticed this point: "Some dissatisfaction had been expressed with the policy which would only contemplate the total repeal of duties upon grey goods. He must point out that, although the Government were prefectly aware that the Lancashire manufacturers desired the abolition of the duties on all varieties of cotton, he was not aware that they objected to their gradual extinction. In fact, in December last, a very influential deputation from Lancashire (not so representative and important certainly as the present) waited on him, and while urging the total repeal of all duties, they pointed out grey goods specifically as being those which ought to be freed from duty. These representations were couveyed to the Government of India, and they very much regretted that there was not time to include the abolition of those duties in the last Budget, and it was understood that they would be abolished in the next."—So this much is certain. The duties on the grey goods will go this year—they have been already considerably reduced. Bit by bit—this is the true English policy. But his Lordship took good care to tell Manchester that he was for the whole hog. He said: "But personally he fully admitted in any further steps that might be taken the whole matter ought to be considered. He had heard with interest the injurious effects of allowing some duties to remain—how it diverted the channel of trade and manuracture, caused great inconvenience to the manufacturer and loss to the people of India. He could assure them that in any further remission of duties which might be decided on the probable effects of those remaining would be carefully considered, and he would see that the technical arguments which they had employed would be brought before the Government of India." It will be thus seen that if the whole of the cotton duties be not abolished this year, they are doomed altogether, and will go next year. How comforting is this statement to the tax-payers of India! His Lordship again vindicated the good name of the Government of India. He said: "The speakers had referred to the opinion in India that certain industries require protection. He believed the opinion was widely held, but he might say with regard to the Government that no such opinion was entertained. They believed that protection was an evil, and if they maintained these duties at all, it was because they looked on it as a revenue question. It was the fact of its being a revenue question that raised any obstacles in the way of the total abolition of the duties." But the plea of protection as we have said above has no foundation at all. The revenue question still presses, but the Secretary of State does not seem to care much for it. His Lordship tried to turn the table by telling Manchester that it should not misinterpret pledges. His Lordship said: "Pledges had been referred to. Pledges were apt to be misinterpretted, but he did not think any pledge had ever been given that these duties would be repealed whenever a surplus was available. The Government of India had always held themselves free to remit whatever tax they thought pressed most heavily on the people of India." But what did it matter what construction Lord Hartington gave to the pledges made by Government, so long as the result was what Manchester wanted? They did not want barren words, but fruitful action, and this they will have. In the same vein Lord Hartington said that the Indian surplus was not the property of Manchester—the Government had a right to dispose of it in any way they might think proper. He remarked: "Reference had also been made to the surplus that might have been realised but for the war expenses. He would point out, however, that that surplus would have been derived mainly from the opium receipts which was greatly in excess. That, as he had taken some pains to show, was not a source of revenue to be relied on. It had always been of a precarious character, and was even now more precarious than ever. A very strong agitation was being carried on throughout the country against opium traffic altogether, and while on behalf of the Indian Government he could hold out no hope whatever of their being able to dispense with this source of revenue, still the agitation was going on, and was increasing the precarious character of that already precarious source of revenue. He pointed out this merely to show that it would not be safe for the Government of India to abandon sources of revenue which are so precarious as that of opium." But say what His Lordship might by way of diversion, his last word as might be expected was entirely with Manchester. His Lordship thus concluded: "The Government was entirely with the deputation; and so far as they were concerned the question would not be lost sight of, and they did not omit any opportunity of pressing its importance—its immediate importance—upon the Government of India, who in their turn were fully alive to the necessity of making steady progress in this direction. He did not like to say positively what it would be possible for them to do in their next Budget, and he thought that suggestions relating to Indian finance, and which affected the prosperity of the Indian people, should emanate from India and not have the appearance of being dictated to India by any industry, however important, or any section of the community at home, however influential they might be." Bosh! The Government of India must take the initiative in the matter, as if it has an independent existence apart from the Secretary of State! The responsibility of action rests with the Government of India. Fudge! Lord Hartington may treat the people of India as no better than mere children, but they are, we venture to say, quick-witted enough to see the hand which inflicts the blow!

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR AT BURDWAN.

DURING his last tour, which was brought to a close on Friday last, Sir Ashley Eden, if we

might so express ourselves, outshone himself. By his urbanity, amiability, and frankness he endeared himself to all, with whom he came into contact. Although he is not foud of speechifying, still the speeches, which it was his duty to deliver on several occasions, were hearty ,pertinent, and practical. The speeches he delivered at Burdwan were particularly happy. On the 6th instant His Honor arrived at Burdwan, and was received by the Municipal Commissioners of the town and a large assemblage of the notabilities gathered on the occasion. The Municipal Commissioners greeted His Honor with a welcome address, to which he returned the following reply :

Gentlemen,—I thank you for the welcome which you have given me to Burdwan, and it is a satisfaction to me that my visit to this town should be associated with an event of so much interest and importance to the place as the installation of the Maharaja.

I notice with pleasure the appreciative terms in which you speak of the benefits which you enjoy under the British rule ; and the loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty, which you have expressed.

It is a matter of great satisfaction to me, that an opportunity should be taken of my visit to open the Jujuty waterworks. These works have been constructed at great cost from the Maharaja's funds, for the purpose of carrying the pure and wholesome water of the Damooda throughout the fever-stricken districts of Burdwan and Hooghly. You gentlemen, know only too well how great have been the sufferings of the people from the constant outbreak of epidemic fever. Whatever theories may exist as to the real cause of this fever, experience has fully established one great fact, which is that a supply of pure good drinking water is always followed by an immediate improvement in the health of the people, and I have looked to these ends as the surest mode of restoring the public health of this part of the country to its former condition. No part of the district has suffered more than the town of Burdwan itself and the question of bringing a supply of pure water into the town has always been kept prominently in view. But energetic and intelligent as your Municipality has always shown itself to be, it has been hampered by a want of money. In Burdwan and in other towns in Bengal, the amount of work to be done is out of all proportion to the means available for doing it. Fortunately for you the Maharaja by an act of magnificent liberality has taken the cost upon himself, and bears the charge of bringing a supply of good pure water into the reservoirs of the town. You refer to a scheme for the possible extension of the supply. I can only say that if a scheme is prepared, which, I am assured by Engineers is a good scheme, I shall be happy to assist its execution either by a grant or an advance of money or by assisting you to raise a loan.

While the Maharaja has come forward to assist the town, in which he resides, by the material benefit of a water supply, he has not forgotten to commemorate the occasion of his majority by a due regard to the moral welfare of the people of your town. He has most generously and liberally supplied funds for placing the school so long supported by his family on a better footing and for converting it into a College. With such assistance as this the Municipality is now placed in easy circumstances, and as time goes on, and the system of self government developes, you will be able to do all that is necessary to make Burdwan a model town.

Finally, I must thank you for the kind and friendly feeling you have expressed to me personally.

In inaugurating the Maharaja's College His Honor thus vindicated the cause of high education :

Maharaja and Gentlemen,—In formally opening this college, I beg to offer my sincere congratulations to the Maharaja upon the fact that it is the first institution of the kind that has been established in Bengal.

It marks, I may say, a new era in University education in this part of India. We have long been familiar with the Government system of high education, and equally so with the missionary and other Christian colleges in Calcutta which receive grants in aid from Government ; but it is only in late years that we have seen growing up amongst us institutions of the same class, established by the independent efforts of natives of this country. The movement began, as might have been expected, in Calcutta, where, within the last few years, we have seen the Metropolitan Institution, and more recently the City College, established under exclusively native management and leading a prosperous existence without asking for or receiving aid in any shape from Government. That movement has now been extended to the mufasil, and the most significant fact about the Burdwan Maharaja College is, that it owes its existence, not like the others, that I have named, to the combined efforts of many persons acting together with the object of bringing high education within reach of a wider circle of students, but to the liberality of a single person. And I may point out that this was a result to which the Education Despatch of 1854 specifically looked forward. The object of that despatch was not merely to encourage the spirit of independence and self-reliance among the native community, though that is an object of the very first importance ; but it was also designed to foster liberality on the part of individuals, in the hope that some among them would devote their wealth to the establishment of colleges and the spread of high education ; and it is an interesting fact that the old school of the late Maharaja, which has now been converted into a college, is actually mentioned as an example of the kind of assistance which the framers of the despatch contemplated. That exception has now, for the first time, been realised in the establishment of the Maharaja's College, which thus sets an example of the greatest interest and importance as regards the future University education in this country. I am not one of those who believe that the Government can either now, or at any early date, retire from its direct connection with high schools and colleges. Nor do I believe any premature severance of that connexion was the intention of the framers of the despatch of 1854. That despatch assumed in every line the value of high ducation, and the importance and necessity of spreading it among the better classes of the natives of this country. Not of high education alone, for it recognized as of at least equal importance the extension of education amongst the masses. And I may here claim, on behalf of the Government of Bengal, that it has not neglected its duty in this respect. Under the system of primary education established in 1872, the number of primary schools has increased from about 8,000 in that year to something like 40,000. In 1880 I increased the allotment for primary education by a lakh of rupees, and I am prepared to make a further considerable addition to the grant in the present year. The interests of primary education have therefore not suffered at the hands of the Government of Bengal. The ground being thus cleared, we can turn to the despatch of 1854 and see how it regarded the relations of Government with high education. The despatch directed that "no Government college or school shall be founded for the future in any district in which a sufficient number of institutions exist capable, with assistance from the State, of supplying the local demand for education ;" and while it looked forward to a time when any general system of education, entirely provided by Government, should be discontinued, it added that it was far from the wish of Government "to check the spread of education in the slightest degree by the abandonment of a single school to probable decay." Well, it is of course clear that there is now no such thing in Bengal as "a general system of education entirely provided by Government." The number of Government schools and colleges bears but a small proportion (if primary schools be included a minute proportion) to the whole number, and the Government contribution to the total expenditure on education in Bengal is little more than 40 per cent. What has taken place is this. The Government has gradually retired from the direct control of schools, beginning at the lowest class and working upwards ; and the vast majority of these, up to and including the middle standard, are now supported by grants-in-aid. Our system of education has, therefore, taught the people to establish for themselves by their own independent efforts the middle schools that they require. Even amongst high schools teaching to the University Entrance standard, 170 have been established by private efforts against 40 that Government maintains. With regard to colleges the case is different. Outside Calcutta Government practically covers the whole field. The time may, no doubt, come when Government can retire to some greater or less extent from its connexion with the colleges ; but can we say that the time has now arrived, or is even near at hand? I can confidently state my belief, that this time has not arrived. In this as in most other matters of administration, the money difficulty, if not the only, is the chief one. The necessary funds, after full allowance is imade for moderate grants-in-aid, could not be raised by requiring the students themselves to pay for the cost of their education. The majority of the middle and professional classes in Bengal are not wealthy—I might say the majority are poor men ; and a great and sudden increase of the fees to anything like the extent required would cause such a depletion in the colleges as would defeat the object proposed. Or, again, can it be said we can rely with confidence on the ability and disposition of the rich native public to provide the enormous sums necessary for the permanent endowment of these institutions? I think that will hardly be maintained. Liberality of this kind has indeed already been manifested on many occasions in an eminent degree, and the colleges at Rajshahye, at Kishnagarh, at Midnapur, at Cuttack, owe their existance or their revival entirely to the fact that wealthy natives have come forward with large and liberal contributions in order to prove, in the most practical way possible, the sincerity of their demand for high education,—the only condition on which Government consented to come to their assistance. Still efforts such as these to which I have referred, and more especially the establishment of the college in which we now stand, all point to an awakening on the part of the natives of Bengal to a sense of their joint responsibility with Government in the matter of high education. I might almost say, they bring us within measurable distance of a time when the expectations of the despatch of 1854 may be realized to a much fuller extent than is now possible. In accordance with the notification of the Government of India, sanctioning the affiliation of this college to the University, I have now much pleasure in declaration of the Burdwan Maharaja's College open."

These remarks of the Lieutenant-Governor so well and forcibly expressed have a peculiar value at the present moment when the cause of liberal education is threatened by the Exeter Hall party in England.

At the investiture His Honor addressed His Highness the Maharaja in the following impressive manner :

Maharaja of Burdwan,—It is a source of gratification to me that I have been able, during my present tour to meet your wishes, and to hold at Burdwan itself the ceremony of your investiture with the title of Maharaja-Dhiraj Bahadur conferred on you by His Excellency the Governor-General of India.

Owing to the lamented death of the late Maharaja, for whom I entertained warm feelings of friendship found d on an acqaintance extending over many years, you have been called at an yearly age to assume the duties and responsibilities attaching to the ownership of the largest estate in the whole of Lower Bengal.

Owing to the custom, which has existed for many years in your family, of giving out portions of the estate in what are known as putnee tenures, your connection with your tenantry, and your interest in their welfare, cannot be so direct and so immediate as it is in estates which are under the direct mangement of their proprietors ; but although this is the case, it is I feel sure, hardly necessary that I should impress on you that the receipt of a vast inheritance and the assumption of a high position amongst the nobility of these provinces entail on you grave duties and deep responsibilities which cannot be ignored. A landholder cannot dispose of his moral responsibility for the welfare of his tenantry by parting with the right of collecting the rents to third parties.

From a period anterior to British rule, the Maharajas of Burdwan have occupied a prominent position amongst the landed aristocracy of Bengal, and many of them have well sustained the honor of their name.

Your lamented father, although of late years he did not take a very active part in public affairs, gave, on several occasions, an example of patriotic loyalty which the Government fully appreciated. Throughout his life he displayed an enlightened philanthrophy and public spirit which afforded an excellent example to his fellow-countrymen. I am glad to find that you are already following in his footsteps and that, besides maintaining on their present footing the existing charitable and educational establishments which he founded. you have taken measures to open a free Library at Burdwan, to give a system of works for the supply of pure water to the town of Burdwan, and to provide a suitable building for the school which is to be raised by your liberality to the status of a college.

In addition to these instances of your well-considered liberality, you have subscribed the munificent sum of rupees 10,000 towards the new hospital at Darjeeling, where you possess considerable property.

Under the watchful supervision of the late Maharaja you have received the advantage of a good English education, you are surrounded, at your entrance on your career by his trusted Counsellors and friends. I venture to express a hope that you will continue to be guided by the counsels of those who served your father so faithfully, that you will resist the advice and influences of self-seeking men, that you will, by enlightened administration of your vast property, by your liberal support of education and your endeavours to improve the condition of all classes of your tenantry, and by maintaining a high standard in your own conduct before all men, show both the Government and your fellow countrymen that you are determined to fill worthily the very high position in which you have been placed at so early an age,"

On the 8th instant the new canal at Burdwan was formally opened. In performing the ceremony His Honor said :

Gentlemen, I will in few words give the history of the works we are now opening. In the year 1852, Government in the interests of the inhabitants of the country on the banks of the Damooda erected embankments for the purpose of keeping out destructive floods of that river. But these embankments had also the effect of shutting out from the rivers Kana and Sarasatti the supply of water which they hitherto received from Damooda. Whether this has been the cause or not as many have maintained the drying up of those rivers was followed by terrible epidemics of fever which commenced in 1861, and raged throughout the Burdwan and Hughli Districts. Fever clung especially to the banks of the dried up channels of these rivers and their distributories. It was exactly here the population was most dense the people having according to the custom of the country settled down in towns and villages on the river banks. Mortality from this fever year after year was frightful. To say the population was decimated gives a very imperfect idea of the truth. In time some villages lost the greater portion of their inhabitants whilst the survivors remained sickly and emaciated. The possibility of this outbreak having been caused by a failure of the supply of pure wholesome water first attracted notice in 1873. and Government endeavoured to apply the remedy. A sluice at Joojooty was constructed at a cost of a lac and thirty-three thousand and water was thrown into the Banka Nundee from the Damooda, but the works were not carried far enough and produced no great effect. In 1874 a temporary channel was cut which admitted water into the Kana Nuddee and as stegnant water and feted pools were swept away a very visible improvement on the health of the people was discernable. Seeing this I came to the conclusion that we were bound at once to take measures for bringing back the supply of wholesome water into the dried up Channels of these Districts. The attempt was first made, the financial position of Government at that time being bad, to induce landholders to come forward to help in the work, Many responded, but the amount required was beyond the limits of private charity, and the financial position of Government being improved, I determined to carry on the project as provincial works from the proceeds of the P. W. Cess. A grant of six and a half lacs was made for the purpose, and a further sum will have to be expended for weirs and regulators for raising the water for irrigation purposes. The sluice now opened will supply water to the Kana and Sarasatti and other channels of Burdwan and Hooghly, and will I hope, completely restore these Districts to their former healthy condition. It will also afford a plaintiful supply to the town of Burdwan of which the Municipal Commissioners will I hope with the liberal aid of the Maharaja make the fullest use, and at the same time will bring a plaintiful supply of good water within reach of the great suburb of Howrah and I hope soon to see water distributed over that town where also it is much required. I have much pleasure in complying with the request made in the papers just read by Commissioner to the effect that I should consent to have the canal associated with my name. The compliment is a great one and I shall be proud to feel that my visit here is remembered in connection with the opening of works calculated to be so beneficial to thousands of the inhabitants of the Burdwan District. The works have been constructed with remarkable rapidity in a way that does credit to all the engineers concerned. Great credit is due to Mr. Vertannes' superintending, Mr. Roberts Executive Engineer, and specially to Babu Bamachurn Paramanick Sub-Engineer in charge of the work. The large works were only commenced in February last,, and have practically been completed for some weeks. I declare them now open.

The tour has brought to the prominent notice of the public many useful works, which the Lieutenant-Governor has been executing quietly and unostentatiously for the development of the resources of the soil, the material improvement of the condition of the agricultural population, and the promotion of public health. The keenness of observation, thorough insight into the requirements of the people, sound practical common sense, and generous sympathy with the millions under his sway, evinced by these works, will be always gratefully remembered by them.

THE BURIAL OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS ACT.

IT has devolved upon Lord Ripon to give burial to some of the monstrous births that took place at the time of his predecessor. He has already given burial to the Affghan policy of Lord Lytton and is about to perform the melancholy task in regard to the Vernacular Press Act. The last-mentioned monster, it may be said, has died of sheer inanition. No one has nursed it, no one has dandled it. It came into the world under unnatural circumstances. It was conceived and brought forth almost on a single day. Those who assisted in the accouchment were taken quite unawares. The child-labour was easy enough, but those who watched the presentation were not without misgivings and mistrust. Poor Sir Alexander Arbuthnot was made to deliver it, but the child had two fathers in Sir John Strachey and Lord Lytton. As soon as the child was born, it was wrapped up in flannel, but it has never had regular sucking. As long as Lord Lytton was in the country, he gave it a suck now and then, but it has since simply withered away. Lord Ripon would not condescend to look upon the child, a hideous birth of a heated imagination. Want of nourishment has killed the child, and his Lordship has ordered a decent burial for it.

Mr. Gibbs, the minister on duty, thus announced the funeral, which is about to take place:

My lord,—I have the honor to move for leave to introduce a Bill to repeal Act IX of 1878, and its amending Act XVI of 1878. It will be remembered that, what is commonly known as the Vernacular Press Act, was introduced and passed at a time when it was considered that some further restriction than the law then allowed should be placed on the freedom which the writers in the Vernacular Press enjoyed, and which it was considered they abused, and this, not because the provisions of the Indian Penal Code had been tried and been found wanting, although legal opinions had been obtained throwing doubt on the provisions of that code being sufficient for the purpose, but to give the Government the power when necessary of its own motion to stop seditious writing without having recourse to the ordinary tribunals of the country. The measure, I believe, was considered in the light of a preventive more than of a punitive nature.

Should any seditious communications in publications issued within British India be brought to the notice of Government the effect of the law as provided by the I. P. Code, can, if necessary be had recourse to, while should a state of things unhappily arise at any time in this country, which would compel Government to take exceptional measures beyond what the law of the Penal Code would permit, the present Government would not shrink from taking such steps as might to be deemed necessary and justifiable. But in a normal condition of affairs, it is considered sufficient to have the law as it stood before the passing of Act IX of 1878. With these observations, I beg to move for permission to bring the bill, &c.

Mr. Gibbs made one condition. He said that the law prohibiting the importation of obnoxious publications from abroad will be continued by necessary additions to the Sea Customs Act. No one will object to such a harmless tinkering.

We were the first to announce in March last the resolution of the Viceroy to repeal the Vernacular Press Act. We then stated that it was intended to consider whether alterations are needed in the provisions of the Indian Penal Code relating to writings of seditious or libellous character, and if so, in what form they should be made. But at the same time we said that in our opinion the present law regarding seditious writing was comprehensive and stringent enough, and did not call for any alteration. The Government of India, however, consulted the local Governments on the subject, and we believe are now satisfied that no additions to the Penal Code are needed. The Liberal Government has at last redeemed one of its pledges. It now remains to be seen whether it will fulfil the other pledges, we mean the repeal of the Arms Act, and of the License tax, both of which Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Fawcett roundly condemned, when they were not fettered by the responsibilities of office. We believe these subjects were referred to Lord Ripon for consideration, and we anxiously await his Lordship's decision regarding them.

OPIUM IN CHINA.

APROPOS of the anti-opium agitation in England it is interesting to observe how indegenous opium is coming into use in China. The reports from some of the British Consuls in the celestial empire forwarded to us from the Press Commissioner's office afford a flood of light on the subject. In one report we read, "native opium seems slowly to be coming more and more into use in the Treaty Ports and districts supplied with foreign opium. In the neighbourhood of the ports it is used altogether for mixing, and never, as far as I can learn, for smoking pure." Then the Consul at Chefoo writes: "A very decided decrease in the import of Indian opium is shown in the year 1880, whilst that of Persian has increased." In discussing the causes of the decrease he says: "The causes of this decrease appear to have been (1) the unsettled state of the country owing to the fear prevailing of the probability of war breaking out between China and Russia, in consequence of which the native merchants confined themselves to smaller transactions than theretofore; (2) the unusually large crop of native drug, this being about 50 per cent, cheaper than foreign drug, naturally would better suit the pockets of the consumers; and were it not that it is necessary to mix a certain amount of the foreign article with the native, in order to render the latter fit for smoking, there is reason to think that consumption of the foreign drug would have been much smaller than it was. Moreover, the increased import of Persian opium cannot fail to have affected the Malwa market prejudicially." Again: "Persian opium has been coming into China in large quantities from year to year of late. Not long ago it was hardly heard of, but now it is actually beginning to affect the Malwa market. Native drug has been grown very extensively during 1880, and this has, as I have stated before, reduced the demand for foreign opium." The Consul at Ichang reports:

No opium is produced in the district in which the city of Ichang is situated; but from the hill regions of the other six districts comprised in the Ichang prefecture, about a hundred piculs annually are sent to market here and at Shashih, after local wants are provided. About half of this amount comes from the district of Patung, and, under the name of *Ch'iao T'u*, it fetches a high price and is in high repute. The production of adjacent prefecture of Shih Nanfu is much larger, being estimated for the past season at five hundred piculs, and that of the whole of Western Hu Pei is given by opium merchants here at two thousand piculs.

Although the habit of opium smoking is far more prevalent in the west of China than in the seaboard provinces, no foreign opium, either Indian or Persian, is consumed. The city of Ichang I take to be a fair type of a western town in this respect, and a few statistics regarding it will give some idea of the extent to which opium smoking prevails. It contains a population of from 20,000 to 30,000 according to the number of junks lying off the city. There are between 600 and 700 opium shops, or rather dens in it, selling from 3 to 5 ounces of opium each per day, and at the low average of 3½ ounces; this gives a total consumption per annum for this small city of 475 piculs, each of 133lbs. It is smoked at rates varying from 240 to 320 copper cash an ounce, so that Ichang expends per annum $220,000 per annum at least on this luxury. Of this amount, 8 per cent. consists of Szechuen growths, one per cent, of home grown, and one per cent. of Yun Nan or Kweichow opium. All opium delivered in Ichang for local consumption pays Tls. 12·00 per picul *lekin* tax. This not exorbitant tax is sufficient to foster a most vigorous system of smuggling, which makes all statistics untrustworthy. I am told that only a third of the opium consumed pays this lekin. Smuggling is rife amongst boatmen and travellers, and indeed amongst people of all classes who may be journeying from west to east, or from country to town. In November last the youth of the prefecture assembled here for the triennial examinations, 1,300 candidates for the civil examinations, and 1,000 for the military.

The great majority of these literary youths came here with their pockets and baggage full of smuggled opium some of which they smoked and the rest they sold to defray the expenses of their examination. This is the school in which Chinese officials are trained now a-days.

Again:

In the province of Yun Nan opium cultivation is increasing enormously. It is already the main crop of the province; and though it appears incredible, I am informed that the production of Yun Nan will soon equal that of Szechuen. Two English missionaries traversed the province last January, *en route* from Bhamo to Chungking, and they reported to me that the province is fast recovering frem the ravages which attended the suppression of the Mahomedan rebellion. Already, they say, it is difficult to discover the desolation described by the members of the Grosvenor Mission in 1875, as the lands are being reclaimed on every side, and devoted, in the winter at least, to the poppy. They described the country as a sea of poppies. Fabulous accounts are given to me by the Chinese here as to the amount of opium now produced in Yun Nan the most modest of these placing it at 40,000 piculs, Kweichow opium has a bad reputation here, but of course there is a demand for it amongst poor people who cannot afford anything better. The production of the province is estimated at from 10,000 to 20,000 piculs according to the season. The opium of Yun Nan and Kweichow, under the name of *Nant'u*, finds its way to eastern markets by way of the Tungting Lake and its affluents, and to the south direct.

The crop of opium in the west is thus estimated here—

	Piculs.
Western Hu Pei	2,000
Eastern Szechuen	45,000
Yun Nan	40,000
Kweichow	10,000

In western Hu Pie there has been no interference with opium farmers or opium cultivation by the officials, nor, as far as I have been able to ascertain, by any of the authorities of the provinces named in this report. In Yun Nan it receives direct official encouragement, and in all the cultivation is free. Its product is regarded as a fertile source of revenue to the Exchequer, of pelf to officials and smugglers, of profit to farmers and merchants, and of pleasure to all. Nearly everybody smokes, and everybody smuggles it about the country when he can; and in this matter there is no difference between rich and poor, lettered and unlettered governing and governed.

Now, we call upon the sentimentalists of England to brush their eyes, and note carefully the above facts. Suppose that the Indian opium trade were stopped altogether, that the cultivation of poppy were prohibited in India, would that prevent poppy cultivation in China and the importation of opium from Persia, and cure the Chinese of the evil habit of smoking opium? If not, then why waste God's breath, and make a mockery of morality and religion? No amount of British oratory, British influence, and British legislation will penetrate the iron walls of China, and influence the daily life of John Chinaman; he will have his smoke, and if he cannot get the drug from India, he has enough at home, and will also procure what he wants from Persia, and may snap his fingers at the British philanthropist and legislator! The anti-opium agitation set on foot in England we are constrained to say is a foolish and fanatical cry, which will do no good to China. The Celestials are too high-placed to care for the howls of the British clergy and sentimentalists below. The cry will, however, do positive harm to India. It will destroy a revenue of seven millions per annum, bring insolvency on the Indian exchequer, and permanently paralyze India for progress. This is a practical question of the highest import, and we earnestly hope that the statesmen, who rule the destiny of India, will not shirk their duty for the sake of a few well-meaning but mistaken fanatics.

INDIAN PROBLEMS FOR ENGLISH CONSIDERATION.

SUCH is the title of a thoughtful and instructive letter addressed to the Council of the National Liberal Federation, by Mr. William Digby, C. I. E., the well-known author of *the Famine Campaign in Southern India*, 1876-78. Mr. Digby's thorough knowledge and wide experience of this country and his generous sympathies with its people make him peculiarly well-fitted for the task of expounding Indian problems to the British public. Speaking generally the English in administering the affairs of this country make terrible blunders owing to their ignorance of the wants and wishes of the people entrusted to their care. They confidently come forward to legislate for one-fifth of the whole human race, with whose feelings and affections, wants and interests, opinions and prejudices they have little sympathy; and their insular pride leads them to think that what they do must necessarily be for the good of the governed.

As Gœthe has pertinently remarked, the English are pedants and will proceed in the way of pedantry as long as they can. One of the greatest defects in the English character is their habit of imagining that a state of things which satisfied their own minds, will satisfy other peoples minds also, and may really be relied on. They will not, if they can help it, ask themselves whether their measures really meet the wants of a case. They assume that their actions *must* produce the consequences which they expect from it. In these circumstances, it is no wonder that in governing India the English should sometimes make gross blunders, and in spite of these, should praise themselves for the way in which they have been ruling the country. But an unprejudiced and impartial observer sees distinctly that they have failed to properly govern India. "We have failed," writes Mr. Digby, "to govern the country as it ought to be governed, not so much from want of good intentions, as from deficiency of knowledge, and what is far worse, we are rendering it impossible for the people ever to rule themselves. What we, because of our shallow information, have not succeeded in doing ourselves, we will not admit to be possible of accomplishment by those who possess the knowledge and experience which we lack." Mr. Digby rightly holds that the time has come when the actual facts regarding the English administration of India should be made known to the British public, who are the arbitres of the destinies of its people. Official utterances on the results of British rule are generally rose-coloured; but even an enthusiastic official apologist like Dr. Hunter is constrained, by the force of facts with which he has to deal, to make most damaging statements respecting the present condition and future prospects of India. The learned Doctor, in his most favourable picture of India, cannot deny that forty millions of people go through life on insufficient food. Mr. C. A. Elliott, the present Chief Commissioner of Assam, states in one of his Settlement reports: "I do not hesitate to say that half our agricultural population never know from years' end to year's end what it is to have their hunger fully satisfied." When so many as forty millions of people are in a chronic state of starvation, British rule in India cannot be pronounced a success. Mr. Digby wishes the British public to realize the gravity of the fact that one person in every six in India is in a condition of gradual starvation, and this through no fault of his own. He wishes them to consider also the further fact, that during the past twenty years, nearly half-a-million persons per annum, on an average, have died in India from absolute want of food. He continues:—"Another important feature of the existing state of affairs in India, brought about under our rule, if not actually as the result of the course of Government we adopt, deserves special prominence. The people are, year by year, steadily growing poorer and the possibility of earning a livelihood is becoming increasingly hard. In the large towns and near the railways, new occupations have sprung in to existence, which find employment for thousands, but even here the increase of wages has not kept pace with the increase in the price of food, and life is a perpetual struggle * * * In the Madras Presidency, which certainly is not the least efficiently administered part of India, our rule is harder to the people than was the native rule, and is steadily growing worse. * * * From almost every part of the Empire the same story comes, but it is not necessary that I should burden these pages with more details of this character. The cost of food for the common people has risen greatly, but wages have not increased in the same proportion. Life, I repeat, is yearly growing harder to our unfortunate fellow-subjects, the horizon of hope is contracting, their misery is increasing." The accuracy of these statements cannot be questioned, as they have been taken from official documents, which as a rule err on the side of under-stating the truth.

Mr. Digby describes the character of the people of India. On this subject he speaks with the authority of personal knowledge. He writes:—"I found the Indians with whom I came into contact during my residence in the East—and I had peculiar opportunities, from a combination of circumstances, arising out of my famine relief and journalistic duties, of knowing intimately many of all ranks and conditions—men whom it was a pleasure to know, men with whom it was a privilege to work. If I could but make them known to Englishmen in any degree as they really are, I should be very glad, for I am satisfied that my countrymen would then see that the people of India were worthy of any trouble which their fellow-subjects in great Britain might take on their behalf." But the misfortune is that the average Anglo-Indian looks upon the natives of India as inferior beings—as "niggers." The prominent traits in the character of the Indian people, according to Mr. Digby, are their wonderful patience, their kindliness towards each other and their general good conduct. During ordinary times there is far less crime among them than among people similarly situated in any European country, and in times of distress they endure their sufferings with great resignation. The late famine in Southern India furnished wonderful proof of the kindliness of the people towards one another. "We saw it," says Mr. Digby, "in our own homes, in the privations our servants endured, that they might be able to help their friends who had no worth; we met with numerous instances in our offices, where the *employes* visibly grew thinner and more woe-begone day by day, the higher wages given by employers going to support relatives in great need than those by whom increased pay was received. One native member of the Central Famine Committee said to me one day, 'I have thirty-five people depending upon me for daily food.' It was a common experience in our Relief Camps and in our Day Nurseries to note that the people did not struggle with one another as to who should be first served; it seemed as if the rule was, the greater the need of the individual the greater the goodness and the patience displayed." The kindliness of the Indian people towards one another has obviated the necessity of a Poor Law for the country. They consider it a sacred duty to support their poor relation and dependents, and the gratitude shown for the help thus rendered is often of a most marked character. Sir Richard Temple in his *India in* 1880 bears testimony to the many good qualities of the Indian people. "There are not," remarks Mr. Digby, "more law-abiding, contented, and on the whole, lovable races under the wide sway of the Queen than the people of India. These good qualities, however, are not developed from the comfort of their surroundings, but exist in spite of misery which might be expected to make goodness impossible. Their worldly possessions are of the slightest value. Their poverty is so acute that English people can scarcely realize it. Save that, in the agricultural district there is no over-crowding, the kindly climate making it possible to sleep in the open air—no Dorsetshire or Devonshire labourer's dwelling can be compared with the wretchedness of the Indian labourer's 'home.' Further, in England the dilapidated and miserable cottages are the exception; in India, for many millions they are the rule. Save and except in towns, where civilization has created the need, and where trade supplies the means for gratifying it, Indian homes have few evidences of what we regard as comfort. Even in regard to those whose incomes raise them above want, tiled houses are rarely seen, and masonry walls, are still more rare. Mud-walls, the same inside as outside, and thatched roofs, are the rule. The rooms have no ceiling, the walls no sort of ornament or decoration, and the floor is of simple earth, beaten hard. There is nothing of what is commonly called furniture. There are no chairs, or tables, or couches, or beds; the people for the most part sleep on the earthen floor, with only a mat or a small cotton carpet beneath them. As I have said, the foregoing description applies to ryots, who may be called well-to-do. Of the labourers, who are to be counted by millions, a very much worse story has to be told. Practically, all their earnings go for food, or are paid in food; the wretched hut in which the labourer lives can scarcely be valued at all. Says one who came very closely into contact with the people during an epidemic of cholera: 'It was then I first really learned the poverty of the agricultural classes, sometimes I had four or five patients in the same house; and not a spare rag in the house more than the inmates had on their persons, and not more than a few day's food.'" The British public have no idea of the abject and hopeless poverty of the masses of the Indian population. Large numbers of them have no resources beyond the current day, and even find it exceedingly difficult to keep their body and soul together. Yet there are English statesmen who tell us that the Indian people can bear additional taxation!

In defining England's duty towards India, Mr. Digby quotes the following passage from Lord Northbrook's famous Birmingham lecture:—"There is one simple test which we may safely apply to Indian questions. Let us never forget that it is our duty to govern India, not for our own profit and advantage, but for the benefit of the natives of India." Mr. Digby does not hesitate to say that the English are not now acting upon that principle, and he calls upon the Council of the National Liberal Fideration to promote the carrying out of those reforms which will enable England to fulfil her duty towards India. He states that, in advanced Liberals, the people of India find their best friends. We confess we cannot accept this statement without qualification. We cannot express adequately our obligation to men like John Bright and Fawcett, for promoting the cause of Indian reform; but so far as the bulk of the Liberal party are concerned, there is not much difference between them and the conservatives. Mr. G. J Holyoake, during his recent visit to America asked an intelligent and right-minded American who did not belong to any party what was understood to be the difference between a republican and a democrat. The answer which was given to him was "Republicans and democrats profess different things, but they both do the same." We think the same remark applies with equal force to the two great political parties in England, at any rate, so far as India is concerned. If the Liberals had considered it their duty to govern India for the benefit of its people, and not for the profit and advantage of England, they would not have pledged themselves, as they have done, to the total repeal of the cotton duties. Mr. Digby brings forward a few facts to show the capacity of the Indian mind. He states that Englishmen have no reason to be ashamed of the products of English education in India. "Year by year," he observes, "we are educating to the highest English standard, hundreds of thousands of Indian youths. A fair percentage of these form exceptionally well-fitted to take part in the affairs of their country. They are acquainted with the history of their own land, as well as that of other nations, and have sufficient courage to enable them to say those things which they believe to be just, and in a constitutional manner to struggle for the attainment of what they consider to be their rights." The work of Sir Salar Jung in the Nizam's dominions, of Sir Madhava Rao in Travancore and Baroda, of Sir Dinkar Rao in Gwalior, and of Mr. Rughoonath Rao in Indore has amply vindicated Indian statesmanship and shewn what educated natives can do when they are allowed free scope for the exercise of their capacity. Yet the vast majority of them, Mr. Digby points out, can get nothing better to do than the mere hewing of wood and drawing of water. "A wider field, large opportunities," says he, "are imperatively needed for the educated and able men of India." As we have exceeded the limits of a single article, we will return to Mr. Digby's letter in our next.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor returned to the capital on Friday last. His Honor was received by the notabilities of the town, both European and Native, on the Howrah platform.

WE ARE GLAD to state that the Maharani of Viziniagram has subscribed the munificient sum of £1000 in aid of the Northbrook Indian Society and Club. We are requested to mention that Babu Dwarkanath Roy, Kagmari, has subscribed Rs. 100 in aid of the Society.

THE TIMES OF INDIA'S London Correspondent gives currency to a rumour to the effect that Lord Hartington has disallowed the extension of Sir Ashley Eden's term of office, that His Honor will accordingly retire in June next, and that Mr. Rivers Thompson has been appointed to succeed him. On the face of it this statement appears to be wholly without foundation. In the first place no application had been made by Sir Ashley Eden for the extension of his service; it was Lord Ripon, who of his own accord on a reading of the law held that Sir Ashley Eden was entitled to retain his office six months longer, that was to say for the period for which he served as President of the Army Commission, and surely his Lordship would not have communicated his decision to the Lieutenant-Governor, without the sanction of the Secretary of State. In the second place, if the additional six months were left out, Sir Ashley's term of office would expire in April and not in June next. And in the third place if any such order has been passed by the Secretary of State, it should have come to the Government of India, but the Government of India are quite ignorant of it. As for the relations between the Viceroy and the Lieutenant-Governor not being cordial, the malicious men, who circulate such rumours, seem to know more about these high functionaries than they do themselves.

WE ARE glad to be able to announce that His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General in Council has been pleased to appoint our well known townsman Babu Durga Churn Law to be the High Sheriff of Calcutta for the next year. The first native merchant in the emporium of European commerce in Asia, distinguished for public spirit and liberality and justly respected as a worthy citizen by both Europeans and Natives, he eminently deserves the honor conferred upon him. He is the third native gentleman, who has been honored with the Shrievalty of Calcutta. The first was our esteemed townsman Mr. Manockjee Rustomji, the second our lamented friend Raja Degumber Mitter, C. S. I. and the third is Babu Durga Churn Law.

THE DUCKS, like the frogs in the fable, tired of their King Log, are crying for a King Stork. The present Chairman of the Bombay Municipality is said to be a weak man, not fit to keep his team well in hand. He is himself fond of logomachy and allows his colleagues to wander about in the same field. So the Ducks are for a smart Jehu, who can apply the lash freely and prevent all crib biting. We doubt not the malcontents will find no difficulty in suiting themselves with what they want, and at the same time realising the moral of old Æsop's story, though the Ditchers, with a similar complaint, have not yet attained their object. Personal Government and public speaking are too obnoxious to each other to be reconciled anywhere. Said a Negro once, "Massa, my flesh is getting proud, I have not had a whipping for a week together!"

WE CONGRATULATE the Maharaja of Burdwan on the brilliant success of the festivities held by His Highness in celebration of his investiture with the khillut of his hereditary title. The Lieutenant-Governor did him great honor by holding the ceremony of investiture at his own seat, and for five days there was a constant flow of festivities at Burdwan designed on a magnificent scale and attended by numerous European and Native guests of high position. The auspicious occasion was also marked by princely benefactions by the Maharaja for the promotion of education, literature, and public health. As the premier zemindar of Bengal we earnestly hope that His Highness will set a worthy example to his countrymen not only by his liberality, but also by co-operating with them in patriotic labours. We wish him long life, prosperity, and happiness.

WE WERE misled by a news-para of a morning contemporary in stating that a Policeman on duty had knocked down an unfortunate native, who fell on the way, whilst the Viceroy was driving from Howrah to Government House on his return to the capital, and that His Excellency seeing the *contretemps* stopped his carriage and ordered Mr. Superintendent Percy to enquire into the matter and report. We are informed by reliable authority that the whole story is wholly without foundation. We are sorry we gave circulation to this fiction.

WE ARE GLAD to hear that the Finance Minister looks favourably upon the project of the Orissa Railway. There are two projects on foot, one to connect Pooree with the Sumbulpore scheme, and the other to connect the Orissa districts with the East Indian Railway at Raneegunge. Major Baring has not declared himself in favour of any particular scheme, but would be glad to see a combination of European and Native capitalists in the promotion of Railway communication in Orissa. He has already ordered a survey of the proposed lines.

THE BOGRA Sunkirtun case has taken a curious turn. The leader of the Sunkirtun party brought a criminal charge against Mr. Sharp, and the Magistrate had adjourned the case till the 26th November. This order was dated the 16th idem, and the complainant had arranged for appearance by Counsel on the appointed day. But on the following day, the 17th November, the Magistrate took up the file in the absence of the complainant and dismissed the case, because he held that the complaint could not be instituted without the sanction of Government, Mr. Sharp in his opinion having acted in his official capacity, and being protected by the Penal Code. Against this order an application was made to the High Court as a court of general supervision. The application was heard on Friday last by Justices Pontifex and Field. It was supported by Messrs. Manmohun Ghose and Anandamohun Bose. Mr. Ghose ably argued the point of law as to whether the sanction of Government was necessary to the prosecution, but the learned Judges held that the sanction was necessary. We withhold comments till we see the judgment, but in the meantime we cannot help saying that the ruling is one dangerous to the liberty of the subject.

WE GIVE below a summary of a letter which we have received from Bogra:

I am an inhabitant of Sherepur in the Bograh Sub-district and beg to bring to your notice a very arbitrary, capricious, and harsh rule requiring a pass to be taken for every religious procession, however small, attended with music. Sherepore, is a rural town, and the application to it of Section 30 of Act V of 1860 is an arbitrary and oppressive measure. A pass must be obtained from Bogra the head quarter station of the district, but the expense and trouble attending the journey far exceed any expense which a processionist might incur in order to get up the procession. The order is necessarily a prohibitive one. Besides when all the inhabitants of the town observe social and religious ceremonies attended with music, to whom does it cause nuisance, on the plea of which music is sought to be put down?

Annoyance of this kind is simply irritating. Music is a necessary accompaniment of social and religious ceremonies of both Hindus and Mahomedans, and to put it down as a public nuisance, in the rural towns and villages in the Mofussil cannot but be considered as most oppressive. Where there may be large processions, a police pass may be necessary for the preservation of peace, but to insist upon it for the playing of a drum here or a flute there is intolerable. Our correspondent says that one must go a distance of twelve miles from his place to procure a pass. So under the capricious rule of our Mofussil *hakims*, our poor rustics cannot even perform their religious and social ceremonies with music in their rustic ways. We invite Sir Ashley Eden's attention to this matter.

NO ONE can deny that Sir Ashley Eden has the courage of his convictions. He has not shrunk from giving his opinion boldly on the subject of the cotton duties, though his outspokenness has braved the ire of the Secretary of State for India and cost him the Governorship of Madras. Had he said "*ditto* to Burke" on this momentous question, he would have probably been installed as Governor of Madras. He has been opposed to increase of taxation, and has insisted upon reduction of military expenditure, and his views on the last-mentioned subject have at last prevailed. He has been a staunch advocate of high education, though quite mindful of the necessity of extending primary education, and he spoke out boldly on the subject at Burdwan. His Honor said: "The time may, no doubt, come when Government can retire to some greater or less extent from its connection with the colleges; but can we say that the time has now arrived, or is even near at hand? I can confidently state my belief, that this time has not arrived." In reviewing the report of the Board of Revenue on the administration of the License tax His Honor remarks: "The whole of the proceedings connected with the working of the license tax, even in Calcutta, show how impossible it is to effect a proper assessment and collection of a direct tax, like the license tax. The proper machinery for the honest and conscientious working of such a tax, cannot be secured in this country, and it is for this reason that the Lieutenant-Governor has always deprecated direct taxation, where indirect taxation could be substituted." This opinion, we fear, will not be palatable to the Indian Minister, who is said to be bent upon reimposing the Income tax in order to recoup the loss of revenue consequent on the repeal of the cotton duties. But we hope Lord Hartington will remember that if he should take that retrograde step, he would do so in the face of best informed opinion in this country.

A TYPICAL case of Police oppression has been brought to our notice. An anonymous petition we are told was presented against a head constable of Gomashtapore thanna, Maldah. Certain persons were suspected as the authors of the petition, and a false and vexatious charge was preferred against one of them by a third party, a common woman. The Deputy Magistrate, who tried the case, disbelieved the charge, and acquitted the defendant. In his judgment he says:

"The head constable, who sent up the case for trial, has come up himself to the head-quarters to conduct the case without orders, hence it is evident that he takes the side of one zemindar to the prejudice of the other."

Cases of this kind we fear are common enough in this country, and require the prompt attention of the higher authorities. We hope Mr. Monro will enquire into this case.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Mymensing:

The other day Babu Syamachurn Chuckervarti a respectable pleader of the local bar appeared before Mr. O'Donnell and referred to a ruling of Justice Phear. Mr. O'Donnell said, "I don't care for that ruling, Phear was a bad Judge."

Gazimamood vrs. Chekonia Shaik Khanoo Shaik, Babu Anathchunder Gooha, a leading pleader of this district, appeared in this case. The complainant is a man of Mr. J. J. Kallonas. The defendants are ijara ryots of Mr. Kallonas. The complaint was lodged before Mr. Price, Officiating Magistrate. The complainant stated that he had been assaulted by the accused; did not show any mark of beating &c., Mr. Price made over the case to Mr. O'Donnell. Mr. O'Donnell sent the complainant to the Civil Surgeon Dr. Moarhead. Dr. Mearhead reported that a rib had been injured. Mr. O'Donnell ordered the Police to send up the accused under Section 325. The accused were challaned under this Section accordingly and the case was taken up on the 23rd November. The pleader appeared for the accused. The complainant and one of his witnesses were examined. Before the examination of this witness was concluded the accused were ordered to hajut and case fixed for the 30th November. This witness did not know either of the two accused. His examination remained unfinished. Mr. O'Donnell recalled the complainant and asked him who else beat you. The complainant gave certain names, and warrants were issued to arrest them.

The Pleader applied for bail,

Mr. O'Donnell—Do'nt annoy me.

Pleader—I have not come to annoy you, Sir, but ask for bail on behalf of the accused, the offence being bailable

Mr. O'Donnell—If you annoy me, I will refer you to the Judge

Pleader—Nothing has occurred for that, your worship can do anything you please.

Mr. O'Donnell—You will have to leave this room.

Pleader—I will myself withdraw from this case.

The Pleader then stated all these facts to Mr. Price, the Magistrate. He simply transferred the case from Mr. O'Donnell's file. The case is now pending before Babu Khetrogopal Roy, Deputy Magistrate. He has admitted the prisoners to bail. The prisoners had been in hajut for seven days owing to the absence of Khetro Babu from town.

I have given you all the facts: I have stated the facts correctly. You can make any use of them you please.

We refrain from making comments. We shall be glad to publish the other side of the story, if the facts set forth above bear contradiction.

HOW THE ryotwarry system is impoverishing the agricultural population of Madras is best illustrated in the address presented by the Triplicane Literary Society to Mr. Grant Duff.

They give the following statement of the sale of property for the realization of revenue :

Fuslis.		Value of property sold for arrears of Revenue.		
1264	...	7,071	...	Including North Canara.
1265	...	14,776	...	do do
1266	...	25.791	...	do do
1267	...	8.327	...	do do
1268	...	13,901	...	do do
1269	...	31,972	...	do do
1270	..	34,040	...	do do
1271	...	21,337	...	do do
1272	...	44,237	...	Exclusive.
1273	...	48,510	...	do do
1274	..	31,880	...	do do
1275	...	65,709	...	do do
1276	...	81,219	...	do do
1277	...	1,33,631	...	do do
1278	...	1,05,490	...	do do
1279	...	1,49,960	...	do do
1280	...	3,04,179	...	do do
1281	...	3,97,345	...	do do
1282	...	4,07,685	...	do do
1283	...	4,85.630	...	do do
1284	...	5,59,978	...	do do
1285	...	4,49,012	..	do do
1286	...	———	...	do do
1287	..	3,69.000	...	do do
1288	...	6,75,091	...	do do
1289	...	17.33,229	..	do do

"This increase," says the Address," in the sale of real and personal property for the realisation of the land revenue, together with the fact that most of the land sold find no purchasers, proves the growing impoverishment of the agricultural class. No temporary causes inherent to a transitional state of Society, can account for this steady increase in the poverty of the people. The causes are the enhancement of the land tax at each settlement, the imposition of local ceases which, in plain terms is enhancement of the same, the discouragement of the annual remission for the bad seasons and the unusual rigidity with which the tax is collected."

The Society further remark that the effects of the pressure put for the realization of revenue after the famine of 1877-78 were disastrous. We are told that the number of defaulters whose property was actually sold was more than double that of the previous year, and the amount realised by sale of property was 80 per cent. higher. The condition of the peasantry in Madras, where the State is the landlord, is truly lamentable. We make no doubt that it will attract the early attention of Mr. Grant Duff. We hope he will consider the question of the permanent settlement of the land revenue in Madras. It is the only remedy for the evils from which the agricultural population of Madras are suffering.

THE MADRAS PAPERS teem with accounts of official oppression in Chingleput in the Presidency of Madras. The *Madras Mail* has the following on the subject :

The people consider that they have been systematically oppressed; but all their efforts to obtain redress, or even a hearing, have failed. The Collector of the District is one of those able but imperious functionaries who cannot brook the idea that they are not the Lords over, but merely the servants of the public who pay them. He is energetic, zealous, and shrewd; but he is not the man to regard with complacancy any local dissatisfaction with his fiats. Now the ryots allege that they have been badly treated by a native revenue officer, who has the confidence of the Collector, and the Sub-Collector of the District. They have done everything short of rioting to induce the District officials, the Board of Revenue, and the Government to protect them. They have more than once memorialised the Board, and the Government; but as often as they have done so, have their memorials been sent back to the District officials, or pigeonholed. The memorials are not intended to convey any reflection upon the Collector or Sub Collector; but as an independent Commission of Enquiry is solicited, this is tantamount to an expression of belief that the District officials are not as free from bias as they might be. And is it impossible, we ask, that this should be the case? Here on the one hand, are hundreds of natives who say they are oppressed. On the other there are virtually two Europeans who deny the allegation. The Board and the Government are petitioned; the two Europeans, who are committed to certain opinions, are called upon for an explanation; and the Government and the Board decline, out of consideration for the feelings of those two officials—those two servants of the public—to hear what the petitioners have to say! The Board is composed exclusively of members of the distinguished Service to which the two officials belong; and, with the exception of the Governor, the Government, so far as regards the Revenue Administration, is similarly constituted. It is not Surprising that men of the same Service stand together, and that whether members of the Board or of the Government, they scorn to entertain so monstrous an idea as that "one of us" can do wrong.

It is the old story over again. It is fortunate that Mr. Grant Duff is at the head of the Madras Government at the present moment. We have no doubt he will sift the matter to the bottom.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—SURPASSINGLY EFFICACIOUS AS A RESTORATIVE MEDICINE AND FOOD.—Dr. Whitmore, Medical Officer of Health, St. Marrylebone, writes.—"My own somewhat lengthened experience as a Medical Practitioner enable me with confidence to recommend Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, as being more uniform in quality, more certain in its effects, more palatable, and infinitely less likely to disagree with the stomach than the Pale Oil. The practice which often prevails of mixing certain ingredients with Cod Liver Oil, to render it agreeable to the taste, is highly objectionable, for we have it on the authority of Dr. de Jongh himself, that anything which sophisticates it, takes largely from its therapeutic value. If I were asked for an explanation of the marked success which for so many years has attended the administration of Dr de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, I should say that it is owing to its extraordinary medicinal, dietetic, and regiminal properties, and which are found to exist in no other medicine that I am acquainted with, in such uniform combination." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half pints, pints and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 77, Strand, London

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 10th December, 1881.

Commercial intelligence for the week has not at all been encouraging, most of our markets continued inactive and operations confined within narrow limits.

Piece-Goods.—There has been a lull in this market during the period under review, in consequence of the demand for the time having ceased, which clearly shows how weak this trade has been rendered from over supplies, and unless some remedies are soon adopted the trade will suffer materially.

No transaction of importance has transpired.

Yarns.—There has been no change except in import 40s. which met with better enquiry and may lead to transactions even at slightly improved rates.

Export markets have rather been quiet and nothing of interest has transpired.

Indigo and Tea were the only exceptions which attracted notice and a fair amount of business done.

Indigo.—There have been four sales during the week and 4,185 chests found buyers.

Tea.—At the public sale held on the 8th instant, 6,700 boxes were offered, all found buyers except 200, there was a steady demand without alteration in prices.

Oil-seeds, Wheat and Jute.—Nothing of importance has transpired, transactions were confined within narrow limits at easier rates.

Rice.—About 40,000 bags of 2 mds. of the under-mentioned qualities found buyers at the rates quoted below :—

Rice Ascoolee	...	...	1-12 to 1-14
,, Kookrahattee		...	1-8 to 1-9
Mooghy	...	...	1-12 to 1-15
Ballam new	...	...	1-10 to 1-12
,, old	...	...	1-12 to 2-4

MONETARY.

Stringency continued to prevail in this market, the Directors of the Bank of Bengal by a special meeting held on the 5th instant, raised one per cent. of the Bank's rates of interest and discount all round, the present rate being 7 per cent. for loans on Government Securities.

GOVT. SECURITIES.

There have been transactions but not extensive. Prices after various fluctuations owing to discouraging telegrams from London combined with the raising of the Bank's rate of interest came down as low as 101-5 for fours and 110-6 for four and halves, but rallied at the close to 101-10 for 4 % and 110-8 for 4½ %.

JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

This market remained quiet and nothing of importance transpired.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	Rs	As.	P
W. F. Chrystal Esq., Barrangore	13	4	0
D. R. Mullick Esq., Lahore	6	10	0
Babu Hurro Chunder Roy, Jarrah	6	8	0
,, Gopal Chunder Chuckerbutty, Baraset	10	0	0
,, Kristolal Ghose, Lahore	11	8	0
,, Kadernath Gooin, Tipperah	10	0	0
,, Kristo Chunder Chuckerbutty, Saidpur	4	0	0
,, Mohiny Mohun Bose, Furreedpore	5	0	0
,, Sarodaperaid Mitra, Pataspore	6	0	0
,, Annund Behary Bose, Cooch behar	8	4	0
,, Anundo Chunder Surbadhicary, Barripore	6	10	0
,, Kadaressar Roy, Chinsurah	13	4	0
,, Issur Chunder Das, Nabigunge	13	4	0
,, Upendro Dev Narayan Sing, Benares	13	4	0
,, Khetter Mohun Rukhit, Ajoodhya	5	0	0
,, Gopeskrishna Banerjee, Rungpore	3	5	0
,, Mohesh Chunder Lahory, Mohigunge	5	0	0
,, Shivaprossunno Chatterjee, Joynagore	5	8	6
,, Kanty Chunder Chatterjee, Krishnaghur	10	0	0
,, Gunga Gobind Nundy, Tangail	7	0	0
,, Obhoy Churn Sen, Nakasiparah	6	12	0
,, Jogendra Nath Mullick, Midnapore	6	8	0
,, Atool Krishna Banerjee, Chuprah	6	10	0
,, Munniwar Das, Jamooi	3	5	0
,, Bepin Behary Mookerjee, Saidpore	1	10	0

Government Notifications.

Calcutta Gazette,—*December* 9, 1881.

GENERAL—Baboo Koylash Chunder Dass, Temporary sub-Deputy Collector, on deputation as Manager under the Court of wards in Chittagong, returned from leave on the 6th November 1881.

Baboo Gobindchunder Bysack, Temporary Ddputy Magistrate and DeputyCollector, Brahmunberiah, Tipperah is allowed leave for one month under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the 15th January next, or from such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Moulvie Dilwar Hossain Ahmed, Deputy Magistrate and Dsputy Collector in charge of the Brahmunberiah divison of the Tipperah district, is allowed leave for six months under Section 129, Chapter X of the Civil Leave Code with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Baboo Kali nath Bose, Deputy Magistrate Deputy Collector, Gya, on leave is transferred to Tipperah, and is appointed to have charge of the Brahmunberiah division of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Moulvie Dilwar Hossein Ahmed, or until further orders.

Baboo Poorno Chunder Bysack, Temporary Sub-Deputy Collector in the Presidency Division, is posted to Narail in the district of Jessore. with effect from the date on which he joined his appointment.

Mr. W. R. Bright, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Patna, is transferred to Rajshahye, and is posted to the Sudder Station of that district.

Mr. A. Rattray, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Barh, Patna, is transferred to Moorshedabad, and is posted to the Sudder Station of that district.

This cancels the order of the 22nd October last transferring Mr. Rattray to Nowada in the district of Gya.

Mr. E. N. Baker, Assistant Magistrate and Collector on special duty, is posted to Gya, and is appointed to have charge of the Nowada division of that district.

Mr. H. F. Mathews, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, who returned from furlough on the 29th November 1881, is appointed to act until further orders in the First Grade of Joint- Magistrates and Deputy collectors, and is posted to he Sudder Station of the district of Rungpore.

Baboo Rajendro Nath Ghose, Officiating Personal Assistant to the commissioner of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division, is allowed leave for two months under Rule 2, Section 136, chapter X of the civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Baboo Ashootosh Gupta, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, temporarily at Rajshahye, is appointed to act as Personal Assistant to the commissioner of the Rajshahye and Cooch Behar Division during the absence, on leave, of Baboo Ram Narain Banerjee, or until further orders.

Captain A. E. Gordon, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, Cooch Behar, is allowed leave for twenty days under Section 71, Chapter V of the Civil Leave Code, with effect from the date on which he may avail himself of it.

Mr. R. H. Wilson, Magistrate and Collector of Midnapore, returned from furlough on the afternoon of the 9th Nvember 1881.

Advertisements.

CORPORATION OF CALCUTTA.

WATER-WORKS DEPARTMENT.

As it is necessary to stop one of the Wellington Square Engines for certain alteration, notice is hereby given that the pressure in the water maines in the south Division of the Town will be reduced about 10 feet for one week from date.

ROBERT TURNBULL.
Secretary to the Corporation.

A Special General Meeting of the Commissioners of the Town of Calcutta will be held at the Town Hall on Friday the 16th December 1881 *at 3 p. m.*

BUSINESS TO BE BROUGHT FORWARD.

1. To fix the rates at which the rates and taxes are to be imposed for the year commencing on the first day of January 1882, under Section 64, Act IV of 1876, as amended by Section 8 Act VI of 1881.—

2. To confirm the Proceedings of the Town Council at meetings held on 19th and 26th of November and 5th December.

3. To consider the report of the Committee appointed for the purpose of enquiring into and reporting on all matters connected with the establishment of the proposed market at No. 159 Manicktollah Street, and the recommendation of the Town Council.

4. Proceedings of the Tramway and Bustee Committees at meetings held on the 1st December.

5. Vital Statistics for the month of October.

ROBERT TURNBULL.
Secretary to the Corporation.

EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

WANTED.

A qualified book-keeper, one having experience of Railway accounts preferred. Salary according to qualification; maximum of the grade Rs. 130 per mensem. Applications with copies of testimonials to be sent to the Auditor and Accountant, Sealdah.

CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY,

NOTICE.

The Senate will proceed in the month of March 1882 to the election of a Tagore Professor for the term of one year to commence on the 1st of September 1882.

The salary of the Professorship is Rs. 10,000 per annum, and the Professor will be expected to deliver a course of not less than twelve lectures upon one of the following subjects.

(1) The Law relating to the Disposition of Property among the Mahammadans.

(2.) The Law of Testamentary Devise as administered in British India.

(3.) The Law relating to Negotiable Instruments.

(4.) The Hindu Law of Inheritance, Partition and Adoption according to the securities.

Candidates for the Professorship are requested to forward this application to the Registrar on or before the 1st of January 1882, and at the same time to state on which of the above-mentioned four subjects they are prepared to lecture.

Senate House, The 23rd August 1881. } CHARLES H. TAWNEY. Registrar.

FOR SALE.

By order of the Administrator General of Bengal in the estate of the late Mr. G. R. Payter

The following revenue paying estates borne on the rent-roll of the Dinagepore Collectorate.

All situate in the District of Dinagepore.

Serial numbers.	Towji numbers.	Names of mehals.	Area in Government bighas.	Recorded rental.	Government revenue.	Netbrokit i. e. col. 5 minus col. 6.	Collections for the past two years. 1286 B. S.	Collections for the past two years. 1287 B. S.	Remarks.
1	426	Gopeenathpore ...	3·846	3·362	1·570	1·792	3·353	3·344	
2	470	Ramkristopore ...	3·391	3·147	1·683	1·464	3·165	3·115	
3	256	Sindorhatta ...	8·389	8·795	4·614	4·181	8·696	8·684	
4	264	Mirzapore ...	13·227	14·646	7·372	7·274	14·706	14·557	
		Total ...	28·853	29·950	15·239	14·711	29·920	29·700	
			4	5	6	7	8	9	10

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Mr. Herbert R. Reily, Chandal Post Office, District Maldah, agent to the Administrator General for the above estate.

মুক্তি এবং তাহার সাধন সম্বন্ধে হিন্দু শাস্ত্রের উপদেশ।

মূল্য ১৷৷ দেড় টাকা, ডাক মাস্থল /১০ আনা।

কলিকাতা অপার সারকিউলার রোড গিরিশ বিদ্যারত্ন যন্ত্রে, ৫৫ নং কলেজ ষ্ট্রীট ক্যানিং লাইব্রেরিতে, এবং রায় প্রেস ডিপজিটরী, সংস্কৃত প্রেস ডিপজিটরী ও বি, বানর্জীর লাইব্রেরিতে প্রাপ্তব্য। (প্রত্যেক সংবাদপত্রই পুস্তক খানির যথেষ্ট প্রশংসা করিয়াছেন)।

CALCUTTA AND SOUTH EASTERN STATE RAILWAY.

ALTERATION OF TRAINS.

On and from 15th December Current :—

The following alterations in the Train arrangements will be made :—

Down Trains.

1. The 7-30 A. M. Train will leave Calcutta for Sonarpur at 6-30 A. M.
2. The 10 A. M. Train will leave Calcutta for Canning at 8-30 A. M.
3. An additional Train will leave Calcutta for Sonarpur daily at 2-50 P. M.
4. The 5-45 P. M. Train will leave Calcutta for Sonarpur at 5-50 P. M.

Up Trains.

1. The Up Passenger (Produce) Train will leave Sonarpur for Calcutta at 3-30 A. M. instead of 4 A. M.
2. The Up Canning Train will leave Canning for Calcutta at 2-40 P. M. instead of 3-5 P. M.
3. An additional passenger Train will leave Sonarpur daily (exception Sundays) for Calcutta at 4-5 P. M.

For further particulars see Time Bill.

R. G. MOOKERJEE. Manager.

Calcutta, 9th November 1881.

ধাত্রী (মেডিকেল কলেজের পরীক্ষোত্তীর্ণা।)
শ্রীমতী নিতম্বিনী চট্টোপাধ্যায়।
১০৮ নং কলেজষ্ট্রীট্ কলিকাতা।

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

IMPORTERS OF

Excelsior Horse or Hand Power Lawn Mowers.

8 inches.....	Rs.	40	18 inches.....	Rs.	110
10 „	„	50	20 „	„	125
12 „	„	65	25 „ With shafts		
14 „	„	80	and seat...	„	300
16 „	„	95	30 „ „ „ ...	„	400

Grass Boxes if required.

For	14 and 16"	18"	20"	inch,
	Rs. 8	10	12	each.

Garden Rollers.

DOUBLE CYLINDER.

18	20	22	24	26	28	30	32	inches
Rs. 50	60	70	80	90	110	150	200	each.

Galvanized Iron Wire Netting

Mesh	½	¾	1	1½	1½	1⅝	2	inch,
Rs.	2	1-4	1	0-14	0-10	0-8	0-8	p. yd. 2ft. wide
	3	1-14	1-8	1-4	0-15	0-12	0-12	„ 3 „ „

Border for Croquet Ground, As. 12 per yard.
4 Inches Galvanized Netting 3 feet wide, As. 14 per yard,

Garden Watering Pots.

1½	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	20	Qts.
Rs.	2-8	3-8	4	4-8	5-4	5-8	6	6-8	8-12	10-8	Each.

Glenny Watering Pots.

2	3	4	6	Quarts
3	3-8	4	5	Each.

Edging Knives, Handled.
Rs. 3-0 each.

Transplanting Tools.
Rs. 3-12 each

Scythes.
Fitted with Sneads, Nebs, and Stone for Sharpening, Rs. 8-0
Extra Stones, As, 8, each.

10 per cent. Discount of the above prices for Cash.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.,
Calcutta.

"PHOSPHODYNE."

TRADE MARK.—*Sanctioned by H. M's. Government.*

HEALTH, STRENGTH, & ENERGY.

DR. LALOR'S PHOSPHODYNE

Discovered and so named, A. D. 1862, by R. D. LALOR, M. D.

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